

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Softball in Hyde Park, wheatgerm in purses. The Americans are in London - to stay. Why? Because they have the know-how and we have the savoir-faire. On the Spectrum page tomorrow, the Modern Times column explains. And there is a further adventure of Flavia Corkscrew.

In the Books Page: Anthony Quinn on *The Squandered Peace*, Richard Holmes on Siegfried Sassoon, Philip Howard on the Lytton Hart-Davis letters, John Nicholson and Bryan Appleyard on fiction.

Office raid blamed on S Africa

South African security police were last night accused of organizing a bank holiday burglary on the new London headquarters of the Anti-Apartheid Movement by Mr Michael Terry, the movement's executive secretary. Staff discovered the break-in yesterday at the offices in Selous Street, Camden, north London. The intruders stole lists of anti-apartheid contacts and supporters and financial records.

The burglary comes just four months after two men, hired by a South African embassy official, were jailed at the Central Criminal Court for taking part in raids on the London offices of three anti-apartheid organizations.

Reagan rebuffed by bishops

America's Roman Catholic bishops have toughened their stand on nuclear weapons and rebuffed attempts by the Reagan Administration to soften the tone of their pastoral letter on war and peace. Page 6

Hunt called off

The Norwegian naval operations command in Stavanger announced that it had called off the hunt for a suspected foreign submarine in Hardanger. Swedish search, page 7

Health deal

Nearly 200,000 railway workers are to be offered private health insurance at less than half price in a deal between British Rail and Private Patients Plan. Page 3

Damned Un-British thing to do...

BRITISH AIRWAYS MAKE A PROFIT

\$50,000 award

Mr Jeremy Carlant was awarded £50,000 in libel damages over a BBC television programme which he claimed implied that he had murdered his father. Page 3

Protest at NF

Police and demonstrators opposed to the National Front clashed before the start of a meeting by the party in a school at Tottenham, Hale, north London, last night.

Police plea

Reforms to the police complaints procedure to give greater civil rights to police officers are in jeopardy because of opposition by the Government, an MP said. Page 2

Hill to resign

Jimmy Hill has agreed to resign as chairman of Coventry City. The club is in danger of relegation after 16 years in the first division. Page 23

Leader page, 15

Letters: On Getty Trust, from Mr H M Williams; judges' role, from Mr A T H Smith; resisting oppression, from Mr E Korn. Leading articles: Falklands; Ireland; Mountain rescue features, pages 12, 13, 14

An Argentine officer explains Britain's Falklands victory, bringing the judges down to earth. Wednesday Page: Planning for pregnancy, Joanna Lumley's Diary, Spectrum: Heroin - the mind behind the needle. Obituary, page 16

Lord Geddes of Epsom, Admiral Arthur D Struble

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Labour plan to concentrate efforts on 105 key marginals

By Paul Rountledge, Labour Editor

The Labour Party is working on a formula for success based on a plan to concentrate its efforts on 105 key marginal seats in its attempt to win the general election.

This will include trade union officials being drafted in large numbers to support the party's electoral effort, particularly in London, the West Midlands and the North-West.

Secret policy documents on these lines were sent yesterday to members of the Shadow Cabinet, Labour's national executive, and the Trade Unionists for Labour Victory (TULV) organization in readiness for Labour's "council of war" at the weekend.

The Woodstock conference, at the education centre of the General Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union (GMBATU) is regarded as a political watershed in Labour's electoral fortunes. Party officials are seeking to inject trade union leaders with their enthusiasm for the belief that Mr Margaret Thatcher can be ousted in a June poll.

In response to a new call for funds, the conference host union, GMBATU has voted an extra £150,000 in addition to the £100,000 it has already given Labour's election campaign.

More money will be given if Labour loyalists decide shortly that the campaign fund should attract "above quota" contributions from the big unions such as the transport workers, public employees and the miners.

At the Woodstock conference Labour Party and union leaders will be looking at prospects for named seats in "high risk" electoral areas, including such constituencies as Darlington, and Barrow-in-Furness and Stockton, South, in a constituency examination of poll prospects.

Labour strategists calculate that a swing of between 1 and 2 per cent to Labour could deliver many of those seats and put Mrs Thatcher out of office.

Union leaders will approach the Woodstock conference in a rather more pragmatic frame of mind. They believe that even a pyrrhic victory would leave the Tories as the largest party in Parliament but without an overall majority, is more than could be hoped for.

The unions are impressed, but not unduly so, by the present

The Times tomorrow The Thatcher interview

interviewed on the fourth anniversary of the Conservatives' general election victory, talks to our political editor, Julian Haviland, about her plans for the next parliament.

The Prime Minister, in-

Labour but went to Mrs Thatcher in 1979.

The Woodstock conference, which starts on Friday afternoon, will look first at the general possibilities for the election campaign on an informal basis before getting down to specific points such as the formal business of campaign themes and money raising.

Union leaders take a cooler view of Labour's election prospects, and do not think that Mrs Thatcher can be dislodged. But they will throw everything into the poll battle because the Cabinet has pushed through legislation on industrial relations that substantially reduces their power.

The Woodstock conference will determine the tenor of the Labour campaign. Three ideas are under discussion including the slogan, "Caring makes economic sense".

● Mrs Thatcher yesterday steadfastly refused to give the slightest indication of her thinking on the date of the election (Our Political Correspondent writes). Pressed during Commons questions, she said that an announcement would be made in the usual way. "Until then it is business as usual".

Parliamentary report, page 4

New suitor 'enters battle for Sotheby's'

By Jeremy Warner

A mystery American bidder was last night poised to enter the battle for control of Sotheby's, the London-based fine art auctioneer.

The company said earlier that a new suitor had approached its directors expressing an interest in mounting a takeover bid that would exceed the £60m already offered by Mr Marshall Cogan and Mr Stephen Swid, two New York art collectors and financiers, and condemned by Sotheby's as unacceptable.

The new suitor is believed to be a large, privately-owned New York financial services group. Mr Marcus Agius, of the London merchant bank Lazard Brothers, which is advising the newcomer, said: "My client has yet to make up his mind, but I think there is a good possibility of him making a bid. He needs more information on the company, meetings with its key art experts and the recommendation of the directors before he does."

In some quarters of the stock market yesterday, where the announcement of a possible second bid had the effect of pushing the Sotheby's share price beyond the reach of Cogan and Swid's 520p a share offer, the news was being treated

sceptically in the absence of any clear indication of the suitor's identity.

A spokesman for Morgan Grenfell, the two financiers' merchant bank adviser, said the announcement was "probably just a ploy" designed to frustrate "what is looking increasingly inevitable".

He challenged Sotheby's to produce its alternative bid.

Mr Cogan and Mr Swid, who have been consistently rejected by the Sotheby's directors as being unsuitable for association with the company, seemed almost certain to gain control barring an intervention by the Government until yesterday's announcement. The new suitor bought nearly 5 per cent of Sotheby's shares from American sources last Friday.

Lord Cockfield, the Trade Secretary, is expected to announce today whether the financiers' offer is to be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission for a six-month investigation. Although the Office of Fair Trading is believed to have recommended against reference, there is still a possibility that Lord Cockfield, who has made several controversial decisions in the field of mergers policy recently, may ignore the advice.



Homage at sea: The bereaved Argentine relatives attending Mass on board the Lago Lacar, off southern Argentina

Sterling at new high on Tory poll hopes

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Hopes of a Conservative victory at an early election pushed the pound up sharply on the foreign exchange markets yesterday to close at a new high for the year. Sterling's trade-weighted value against a basket of currencies ended up 0.8 at 85.0 - the highest closing level since December 20 - and against the dollar it rose 1.8 cents to \$1.5785.

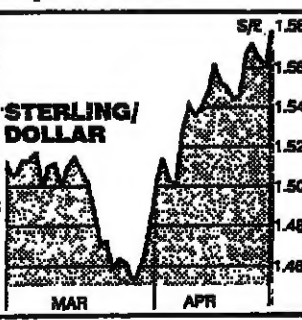
Sterling's strong performance, just two days ahead of Thursday's local elections which are widely expected to help determine the date of the General Election, came as Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, hit back at government critics who claim that inflation is set to take off again next year.

Mr Brittan said at a lunch for American magazine publishers that the Government was doing rather better in reducing inflation than forecast at the time of the Budget and it was determined to keep inflation on a downward path.

Confirming the hints given by the Chancellor recently on television, Mr Brittan said: "It was made clear at Budget time that after months of faster-than-expected progress, inflation was expected to be about 4 per cent in May with some slight rise later in the year, perhaps to 6 per cent. There are now in fact signs that we may be doing a little better than that."

The recent rise in sterling - it has recovered nearly 9 per cent since its low point towards the end of March - will help the Government to keep inflation in check although it will not be welcomed by much of manufacturing industry. However, Mrs Thatcher told Parliament yesterday that the Government would not interfere with the sterling market rise a good deal without affecting government forecasts of rising exports.

The Cambridge Econometrics group, in a new forecast published today, says exports are likely to be the main source of growth in 1984 and 1985, assuming the pound stays close to present levels. However, it says recovery this year will be weak with gross domestic product forecast to rise by only 2.1 per cent in 1983.



Stern to let experts examine diaries

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

The writer David Irving behaves in an opposite manner. Doctors, however, are bound by an oath of confidentiality, but for historians as it is now clear, there is no such obligation. Laying all the documents before a historical commission would, as Henri Nannen, Stern's publisher, has already pointed out, call into question the exclusivity of the material.

Even the handwriting and material tests handed over before publication by Stern to well-known experts and positively assessed by them, have since then been interpreted in contradictory ways by the press, television and radio, and partly pronounced false. Certain newspaper have not even hesitated to raise political suspicions about Stern's editors.

Meanwhile, the discussion concerns material from recent history of extreme defecacy. Stern has therefore, despite its opinion, taken into account Professor Broszat's demand and will straight away allow independent experts in the Federal Republic, Switzerland, and the United States to have a look at the original material.

Until these tests, carried out on the broad basis by highly responsible bodies, have been completed and yielded a clear result, the chief editors, publisher and printer of Stern believe that further discussion will not serve any use.

Signed: Henri Nannen, Stern publisher, Felix Schmidt, Stern chief-editor, Gerd Schulz-Fillien, chairman of Gruner and Jahr.

Continued on back page, col 2

Solidarity marchers ignore riot police

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Clapping their hands in unison and shouting "come with us", thousands of Solidarity sympathizers marched through the central streets of Warsaw last night, ignoring the massed units of Polish riot police and militia.

The spontaneous demonstration began after a Mass at Warsaw cathedral marking the anniversary of Poland's first democratic constitution. Fearing a repetition of May Day rioting, the riot police had closely monitored the service and called on the crowd to disperse immediately after the final blessing.

Walking through a funnel of policemen, the worshippers were guided towards Krakowskie Przedmiescie Street. Then the trouble began.

The crowd started clapping the militia, most of whom were in full riot equipment. An ironic chant of "bravo militia" echoed through the street and the police appeared powerless to stop the procession, which had blended with the normal flow of homeward-bound commuters, many of whom had joined in the applause.

Water cannon and gas guns blocked the entrance road to the building of the Communist

Another 15,000 pit jobs to go

By Jonathan Davis

Up to 15,000 mineworkers will lose their jobs this year because of the coal industry's mounting losses, the National Coal Board warned yesterday. Fifteen pits could be shut in an accelerated programme of pit closures.

Mr Norman Siddall, the coal board chairman, said that the board's losses - now running at more than £100m a year - made it inevitable that the rate of closures and redundancies would be quickened.

Mr Siddall, speaking at the board's annual press conference in London, would not be drawn on a figure of job losses. But he said that it would be greater than last year, when 10,170 jobs were shed, reducing the industry's work force to 202,000.

The number of pits to be closed would also be greater than last year, when six were shut. Six closures had already been agreed after talks with the unions.

Mr Siddall said he expected that virtually all the job losses would be achieved through voluntary redundancies. Compulsory redundancies on any large scale were unlikely before next year at the earliest.

The coal board made a loss in the 1982/3 financial year of more than £100m, despite Government grants totalling £115m.

● More than 600 Lancashire steel jobs are likely to be lost after the Department of Employment's refusal to renew payment of a short-time working subsidy.

Coal board losses, page 17

Argentine relatives held up by storms

Buenos Aires (Reuter) - A ship carrying relatives of Argentine servicemen killed in last year's Falklands conflict sheltered yesterday from storms in a southern port, with families still hoping to be allowed to visit the islands.

Señor Osvaldo Destefanis, organizer of the planned trip, said by radio telephone that the cargo ship Lago Lacar was lying in the bay just off Puerto Madryn, 850 miles south of here.

He said he was still trying to speak directly to Mrs Margaret Thatcher to ask her to lift a ban on the 50 relatives visiting the island cemetery.

He was also trying to telephone the Pope to ask him to intercede with the British Government. If the appeals failed within the next 48 hours, the Lago Lacar would return to Buenos Aires.

Señor Destefanis contacted 10 Downing Street on Monday, but was diverted to the Foreign Office.

In Buenos Aires, naval sources said the military Government's own ban on the visit remained in force. It was imposed last week on the grounds that an attempt to land might put Argentine lives at risk.

The sources said that although the Lago Lacar was forbidden to approach the Falklands as long as Britain maintained its ban, the Argentine Government had no objection to those on board continuing their efforts to get the ban lifted. The Government considered these actions well-intentioned.

Señor Destefanis said rough seas had prevented the relatives on board the ship from practising a shore landing in a craft specially brought for the purpose.

Why they lost

The lack of helicopters, long-range artillery and night-fighting experience cost Argentina the Falklands, according to a senior Argentine officer. General Menendez was right not to counter-attack. Page 14.

The Argentine Government had said the ship would be allowed to take part in an official remembrance ceremony for the war dead at the spot where a British submarine sank the cruiser General Belgrano on May 2 last year, with the loss of 321 lives.

The ceremony took place on Monday, but the Lago Lacar did not reach the site. Instead, it held a separate wreath-laying ceremony off the coast near Puerto Madryn.

● London: At least five British warships are steaming for the Falklands to strengthen the Royal Navy's presence before Argentina's national day on May 25, Henry Stanhope writes. The Ministry of Defence is taking no chances, in case the Buenos Aires junta decides to attempt a hit-and-run attack.

Continued on back page, col 6

CHARLES CHURCH

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Explosives found hidden in London bedsitter

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

A cache of between 15 and 20 lb of explosive hidden in 1979 by a Provisional IRA unit led by Gerard Tuite was found yesterday at a north London bedsitter by Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist squad.

The second anniversary of the death of Robert Sands, the IRA hunger-striker, falls this week and Commander William Huckleby, head of the anti-terrorist squad, warned the public that the Provisional IRA could be planning new attacks.

Although Scotland Yard receives a number of alerts, officers are understood to be taking the present one very seriously. There has been no

IRA activity in mainland Britain for nearly a year.

Yesterday's discovery was made in flat 12, a bedsitter, at 1, North Road, Highgate. Detectives arrived at the large double-fronted house just after 9 am and the explosives were found under floor-boards.

The house, which was first searched by police in 1979, is part of a terrace and opposite Highgate School. The bedsitter was uninhabited yesterday because of fire three weeks ago.

The explosives, including a commercial variety and a home-made mixture, would have been sufficient to damage the building severely. It houses more than 20 people.

It was not clear yesterday why the explosives were not found in the first search. It is understood that traces of explosives had been found, but it may have been thought they indicated that explosives had been there and been moved.

One police source suggested that the explosives could have been returned later.

When the explosives were found the searchers at first feared they were in a dangerous condition. The area around the house, close to Highgate Village, was cordoned off and surrounding houses evacuated. The school was closed for the day and traffic was diverted from the top of Highgate Hill.

Later the explosives were examined by an expert who discovered that they were in fact in very good condition and did not present a risk. They were taken from the house in a series of boxes to Woolwich Arsenal for further investigation, and a "sniffer" dog was brought in to search the rest of the building.

A number of other places may be searched in the next few days. The re-examination has not been inspired by a new "super-grass" in the terrorist world but by a decision to re-evaluate the files.

On Monday Tuite lost an appeal in Dublin against his

conviction in the Irish courts for being in possession of explosives at a flat in Greenwich, south London. He was originally arrested in Britain but escaped from the maximum security wing at Brixton Prison in 1980.

Last year the Irish police arrested him in Drogheda, co Louth and he became the first person convicted in the Irish Republic for terrorist offences in Britain. He is now serving a 10-year sentence.

Sands died on May 5, 1981 after a hunger strike lasting 66 days.

Photograph, page 2

100 NEW COMPANIES HAVE MARCHED HERE IN THE LAST YEAR.



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Telford

The Growing Story

Specialist cinema to close

The Paris Pullman cinema, in west London, one of the best known specialist cinemas for foreign films during the last 30 years, is to close on Sunday because of the combined effect of increased taxes, inflation, televised films and the video boom.

Mr Charles Cooper, managing director of Contemporary Enterprises, who has run the cinema for 17 years, said yesterday: "We have only survived for the last three years with a rearguard action."

After the sale of the cinema, for an undisclosed price, a small development of flats will take its place in Drayton Gardens, South Kensington.

Like all cinema operators, Mr Cooper had hoped that the Government would grant them relief from value-added tax and from the Eady Levy, a tax on cinema seats which goes back into British film production.

Strike talks by shipyard men

Shipyard workers representing 64,000 shipyard workers are to meet today in Tynemouth to decide how to fight the 9,000 redundancies recently announced by British Shipbuilders, the state-owned company.

Calls for an all-out strike will be restrained by the knowledge that Sir Robert Atkinson, BS chairman, has indicated that there could be even more drastic cutbacks if the world market for ships does not pick up.

Venables ends bonus dispute

Mr Terry Venables, the manager of Queen's Park Rangers Football Club, yesterday settled his wages dispute with Crystal Palace, his former club.

The High Court in London was told that a claim that the club owed him a £25,000 loyalty bonus under the terms of a contract was being withdrawn, as was a counter claim by the club, on the basis of agreed.

PC stabbed in the neck

Police Constable Francis Richley, aged 21, was seriously ill in hospital last night after ambulance men found him with a knife embedded in the base of his neck in Tilehurst, Reading.

He was taken to the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading, but was transferred to the Radcliffe Infirmary for specialist neurological attention before going into intensive care. Two youths were being questioned by the police last night.

EEC challenged over milk

The British Government is reserving powers to continue to ban milk imports, despite a European Court ruling last February that restrictions violated the Treaty of Rome.

The Importation of Milk Bill will, if enacted, enable it to make regulations governing description, quality, ports of entry, and inspection and testing requirements.

Woman found dead in park

A young black woman whose body was found in a south-east London park yesterday was believed to have been stabbed to death.

She was found near a railway line in Warwick Gardens, Peckham, wearing rings on all her fingers, but had nothing in her clothing to identify her.

March support

The Conservative controlled council at Blackburn, Lancashire, has given £1,000 to the People's March for Jobs from Glasgow to London. It is believed to be the only Conservative council to do so. Yesterday about 100 marchers crossed Shap Fell, in Cumbria.

Trawler returns

The missing Irish trawler, Ardara, found after a three-day search in the Atlantic, was towed into Killybegs harbour, on the Donegal coast, yesterday. There were emotional scenes as the four fishermen on board stepped ashore.

Mrs Peggy Fenner, Parliamentary Secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture, emphasized that the codes, which apply to cattle and pigs, should not be seen as merely advisory.

Although failure to comply with them was not illegal, it could be taken into account in proceedings for causing unnecessary pain or distress to farm livestock, she pointed out. The Farm Animal Welfare Council was at present considering whether the time

£100m spent by Ford on diesel engine production

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Ford has spent £100m to rebuild and re-equip its engine plant at Dagenham, East London, to manufacture its first diesel engine for cars. It will supply all of Ford's European factories and is set to become one of the largest diesel engine plants in the EEC, with a potential capacity to produce 400,000 engines a year.

With the big plant opened at Bridgend three years ago to produce the bulk of Ford's petrol engines in Europe, it means Britain is now the American group's main source of power units.

Ford executives said yesterday that Britain had been allocated this important role in its European plans because engine production here, in contrast to car assembly, meets with the best European standards of quality and cost.

The executives admit, however, that engine production is much more automated and less dependent on labour. No additional workers will be recruited at Dagenham, which has considerable unused capacity.

The new 1600cc diesel engine has cost £40m to develop and will fill a considerable gap in Ford's range, which has lost the company sales to its increasingly successful rival, General Motors (Vauxhall). The latter's 1.6 litre diesel engine is an outstanding power unit.

Until the new diesel appears in October, said to be in versions of the Escort and Fiesta, Ford will be dependent on heavy, out-dated versions of the 2.3 litre diesel it purchases from Peugeot, France. However, these are only suitable for its larger Sierras and Granadas.

Production starts at Dagenham in September with a planned output of 150,000 engines a year in addition to the existing production of heavier diesels for commercial vehicles and tractors.

● Ford also gave details yesterday of a Granada research vehicle, developed with the cooperation of Porsche, to operate on three or six cylinders, depending on the power demanded by the driver through the accelerator pedal. (The Press Association reports).

● A Ford spokesman said: "Research trials by Ford and Porsche have indicated that the 3 x 6 engine system can improve fuel consumption by up to 17 per cent in typical urban driving".

● The working party set up last Friday by Ford's National Joint Negotiating Committee to investigate the company's proposed efficiency programme at Halewood, in Merseyside, spent yesterday at the plant (Our Liverpool Correspondent writes).

Police complaints reform 'in jeopardy'

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Reforms to the police complaints procedure to give greater civil rights to police officers are in jeopardy because of opposition from the Home Office and the Association of Chief Police Officers, a Conservative MP said yesterday.

Mr Eldon Griffiths, MP for Bury St Edmunds and parliamentary adviser to the Police Federation, said that the reforms, introduced by him to the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill in its committee stage, were opposed by the Government and might not be carried through the Lords.

The police department of the Home Office "which has opposed these reforms throughout and briefed the committee against it in the Commons", would prefer to see the amendment cut, he said.

The Association of Chief Police Officers, the Civil Service Department and possibly some Law Lords were also concerned about the reforms, he said, and he feared his amendment would not survive in its present form. "I have very good grounds for saying that."

Mr Griffiths was speaking in the House of Commons in support of the reformed complaints procedure now in the police Bill, which started its report stage yesterday.

Under the amendment, carried despite government opposition, police will have legal representation when facing disciplinary charges that could result in dismissal, a lowering in

rank or losing three months' pay.

The Home Secretary will have to give reasons for dismissing an appeal and the rules of natural justice will prevail in disciplinary hearings, with hearsay evidence normally excluded.

At present, Mr Griffiths said, the police disciplinary system was "too much like that of Captain Bligh was able to impose on the Bounty." If citizens were to have protection under the Bill, so should police, he said.

Mr Leslie Curtis, chairman of the federation, said that the reform was extremely important to police officers. "Under the present system a police officer facing disciplinary proceedings is in a worse position than anyone else in the same situation in this country."

Identification move

Mr Peter Imbert, chief constable of the Thames Valley Police, has ordered that uniformed members of his force must in future wear identification numbers on all occasions (Our Political Correspondent writes).

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Ormskirk and chairman of the all-party Penal Affairs Group, complained to the Home Office last month that some of the women demonstrating outside the Greenham Common base had allegedly been ill treated by police officers, who had worn anoraks without numbers.

House hunters may see properties on TV

By Baron Phillips, Property Correspondent

Home buyers will soon be able to select houses and flats to view from their armchairs if discussions between a building society and a national chain of estate agents are fruitful.

Under the terms of the scheme clients of the Nottingham Building Society will be able to receive details of homes for sale by pushing a button on their Prestel-adapted television sets. The society hopes to be able to offer a selection of homes throughout the country.

By pushing another button, borrowers or investors will be told whether the building society will grant them a mortgage.

The development is an extension of the building society's Prestel scheme, which



An anti-terrorist squad officer removing a box yesterday from a house in Highgate, north London, where explosives were found in a bed-sitting room.

BBC lead over TV-am increases

By Kenneth Gosling

The BBC has continued to improve its share of the breakfast time television audience, with a weekday figure of 1,600,000 up by 100,000.

TV-am, its commercial competitor, absent to undergo a reorganization under Mr Greg Dyke, the new editor-in-chief, has held its audience at 300,000. Its weekend programme, hosted by Michael and Mary Parkinson, unopposed by the BBC, fluctuated over the previous week, according to figures published yesterday. Saturday's figure of 1,400,000 was 100,000 up, but Sunday's dropped from 700,000 to 400,000.

Snooker on BBC2 sent that channel's ratings soaring at the expense of Channel 4. The BBC2 share of total viewing rose from 19 to 29 per cent, while Channel 4 went down from 4 to 3 per cent.

In the week ended April 24 figures published by the Broadcasters' Audience Research Board show a peak audience for world championship snooker of 5,500,000 giving it fourth, fifth, sixth and eighth places in BBC's top 10 programmes.

Mr Parkinson is expected to be confirmed as a member of the TV-am board by the Independent Broadcasting Authority today.

Mr Whiteley replied that he was committed to the "civilization" of much of police back-up work, but he was also faced

Postal vote dents right's hold on engineers' union

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Government hopes that secret postal ballots would lead to the election of "moderate" trade union leaders took a sharp knock yesterday when a leading communist was voted on to the national executive of Britain's second largest union.

Mr James Airdie won the contest for the Scottish seat on the executive of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and in doing so ended the right's total control of the union's top body for the past four years.

Mr Airdie, an assistant divisional organizer for the union in Glasgow, beat Mr Thomas Douglas, the region's regional organizer, by 11,706 votes to 8,288 on the second ballot.

Left-wingers in the union were last night hailing Mr Airdie's election to the seat vacated by Mr Gavin Laird when he succeeded Sir John

Boyd as general secretary, as a severe dent in the right's dominance.

Ministers have always said that secret ballots do not guarantee the emergence of "moderate" union leadership, but they have indicated that future legislation would be aimed at introducing elections to union executive bodies.

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, included that suggestion in his recent Green Paper on future labour laws and if there is no June election it is likely that the Conservative Party's manifesto will include a reference to the need for secret postal ballots for union leadership elections.

Mr Airdie, aged 46, came to prominence as the convener at Upper Clyde Shipbuilders in the early 1970s, when he organized the year-long work-in by shipyard workers.

His name was not mentioned by any of the principal speakers, who included Mr Michael Foot, the leader of the Labour Party, Mr James Knapp, the new

NUR general secretary, Mr Norman Willis, deputy general secretary of the Trades Union Congress, and Thomas Ham, president of the NUR.

Mr Weighell retired from the union amid controversy after failing to win a vote of confidence from his annual conference over his decision to ignore a mandate and cast the NUR block vote at last autumn's Labour Party Conference in favour of a moderate.

Mr Weighell coldshouldered

Mr Sidney Weighell, former general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, was not invited to the opening of the union's new headquarters in Euston Road, London, yesterday, although he had been acknowledged as its "Father".

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Science report US device may block nuclear shockwaves

By Bill Johnston

Scientists at the University of Minnesota, in the United States, are experimenting with a device that could neutralize the shockwaves produced by a nuclear blast and prevent them from disturbing the country's electrical power network.

If such a device was not used, the scientists say, "the country's entire electrical communications system, and everything attached to it from telephones to computers, would black out".

The device is at the prototype stage and tests are being done to see how effective it is in preventing power blackouts which can occur because of natural disturbances in the atmosphere.

The research is being conducted by Professor Vern Albertson, of the university's electrical engineering department, in collaboration with researchers from Minnesota Power of Duluth, the Commonwealth Associates of Jackson, Michigan, and the Phoenix Electric Corporation of Boston, through funding by the Electric Power Research Institute of Palo Alto, California.

According to the scientists at Minnesota, the nation's power grid is affected by the vast electromagnetic disturbances created by nature and potentially created by man in the upper atmosphere. The disturbances begin on the Sun, which emits streams of electrically charged particles through space phenomena as solar flares.

The particles create the aurora borealis, or northern lights, which create about 27,000 million kW hours of loose electricity across the sky every year, creating the electromagnetic disturbances in the atmosphere.

The device is being adapted by the American researchers to block the low frequency aftermath of a nuclear blast, called electromagnetic pulse phenomena (EMP), but the research is still at the embryonic stage. Its immediate application will be to prevent blackouts through natural disturbances which affect more countries at northern latitudes.

According to the Minnesota scientists, a large geomagnetic storm last July caused blackouts in Sweden. Areas as far south as New York and Pennsylvania are vulnerable to these disturbances, they say. But Canada, Scandinavia and the northern tier of the United States are at greater risk because they are closer to the North Pole, where the charged particles circle.

April, May, September and October are peak times for geomagnetic storms, the researchers say, because of the Earth's angle to the Sun. Southern states are probably safer from that kind of blackout.

It is the disturbances created by the electromagnetic storms on the Sun's surface that have captured the immediate attention of the scientists.

Local appeal to stamp out glue sniffing

Birmingham yesterday became the first local authority in Britain to mount a campaign warning parents about the dangers of glue sniffing.

A leaflet on how to detect signs is to be sent to 150,000 families, with the joint backing of the city council and Birmingham's advisory committee on solvent abuse.

There will also be a poster campaign directed at young people who may be tempted to experiment with glue, solvents and other substances.

Overseas selling prices

50p for 100 copies of the Central Marketing Manual, 75p for 200 copies, 100p for 300 copies, 125p for 400 copies, 150p for 500 copies, 175p for 600 copies, 200p for 700 copies, 225p for 800 copies, 250p for 900 copies, 275p for 1000 copies.

Mr Williams's letter was not a sign of crisis. "But obviously our membership subscriptions are more vital to us than the other two parties, who have big resources from elsewhere."

The SDP said yesterday that about three-quarters of its 60,000 - 65,000 members renewed in January.

Mr Williams's letter was not a sign of crisis. "But obviously our membership subscriptions are more vital to us than the other two parties, who have big resources from elsewhere."

INSIDE OUT

CENTRAL

Our brand new Marketing Manual will tell you everything you could ever wish to know about the Central area—from population to living standards, from consumer markets to retail structure.

The perfect companion to our Grocery Manual, with its analysis of the Central grocery market.

Call Barry Reeve on 01-486 6688, and he'll send you your very own Central reference library.

British Rail negotiates health insurance for staff at cut rates

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Nearly 200,000 railway employees are to be offered private health insurance at less than half price in a deal between British Rail and Private Patients Plan (PPP).

The deal, which will be bitterly opposed by the railway unions, who were not consulted, is believed to be the most generous yet offered by private health insurers to public employees.

British Rail staff will be able to subscribe to an insurance plan, offering up to £25,000 a year for hospital treatment at substantial discounts offered across all gradings. A person aged up to 29 will be asked to pay £8.20 a month, compared with the normal subscription of £19; and those aged 45 to 49 will be offered a rate of £10.88 a month instead of £25.28.

The terms of the offer apply equally to men and women, and make no distinctions between manual, skilled, or clerical workers.

PPP was not able to estimate how many new subscribers it expects from the initiative, which is believed to have come from British Rail, who are offering to deduct fees at source from employees' wages. But the generosity of the discount being offered indicates the confidence of PPP that there will be a big response.

Much less generous discounts were offered last month when the Government agreed to allow

Marines in search for killer beast

By Craig Seton

Twelve royal Marine commandos were staked out last night on hillsides in north Devon in an attempt to spot a black, cat-like animal that has killed more than seventy lambs and sheep.

The nocturnal attacks of the animal, which some have called a "puma", have disrupted sheep farming in the South Molton area since February. The creature has evaded patrols by farmers armed with shotguns and police searches, although it has been spotted several times.

Three lambs and a full-grown ewe were killed last weekend in a five-mile area and Royal Marines from the commando training centre at Lynton, near Exeter, were asked to use their expertise and night vision equipment to track down the animal.

Local farmers do not believe the animal is a rogue dog, as it tends to kill quickly and silently and frequently crushes lambs' skulls before devouring their carcasses.

Chief Inspector Roy Roberts, of Exeter Police, who is helping to coordinate the search, said yesterday that the animal would be captured alive if possible.

There was no question, he said, of the marines firing at anything that moved.

The Marines intend to spend a week covering an area of 5-10 square miles north-east of South Molton, keeping a close watch on the farm of Mr Eric Ley, who has lost more than thirty lambs in six weeks.

Head of travel club jailed for fraud

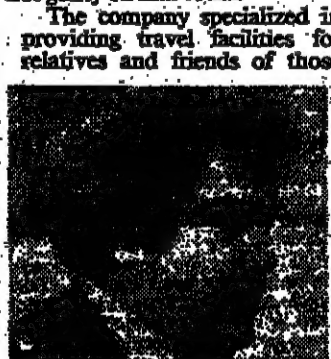
The head of the now defunct Overseas Remun Club pleaded guilty at York Crown Court yesterday to fraudulent trading with intent to defraud creditors and was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment, of which eight months was suspended.

Roger Manners, aged 39, of Claydon, Rampton, Greater Manchester, was described as the "eternal optimist" and the "big ideas man" by Mr Geoffrey Rivlin, QC, for the prosecution.

He said that Manners was clearly the driving force behind the company, which collapsed in 1977 with more than 2,000 individuals or families having paid £620,000 for tickets which were not received.

Manners had pleaded not guilty to a further charge of failing to keep proper books of accounts, but no evidence was offered by the prosecution and Mr Robin Stewart, the recorder, formally recorded a verdict of not guilty on that count.

The company specialized in providing travel facilities for relatives and friends of those



Roger Manners: "An eternal optimist"

Embryo freezing criticized

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The latest advance in test tube baby research, in which a woman has become pregnant with an embryo that was deep frozen for four months, was criticized yesterday by several medical and church bodies.

The operations in which a fertilized egg was stored at very low temperature and reimplanted 14 weeks ago in the woman from whom it was originally taken, was reported on Monday.

The implantation was done by an Australian team comprising Professor Carl Wood, Dr Alan Trounson and Dr John Lenton at Queen Victoria Medical Centre, Melbourne, who are already at the centre of a controversy about the ethics of another procedure.

That concerns the implantation last month of an egg taken from a woman aged 42, fertilized and transferred into the womb of another woman.

Both procedures are being criticized. However, the use of a deep-frozen embryo raises the obvious fundamental ethical issues. A successful pregnancy

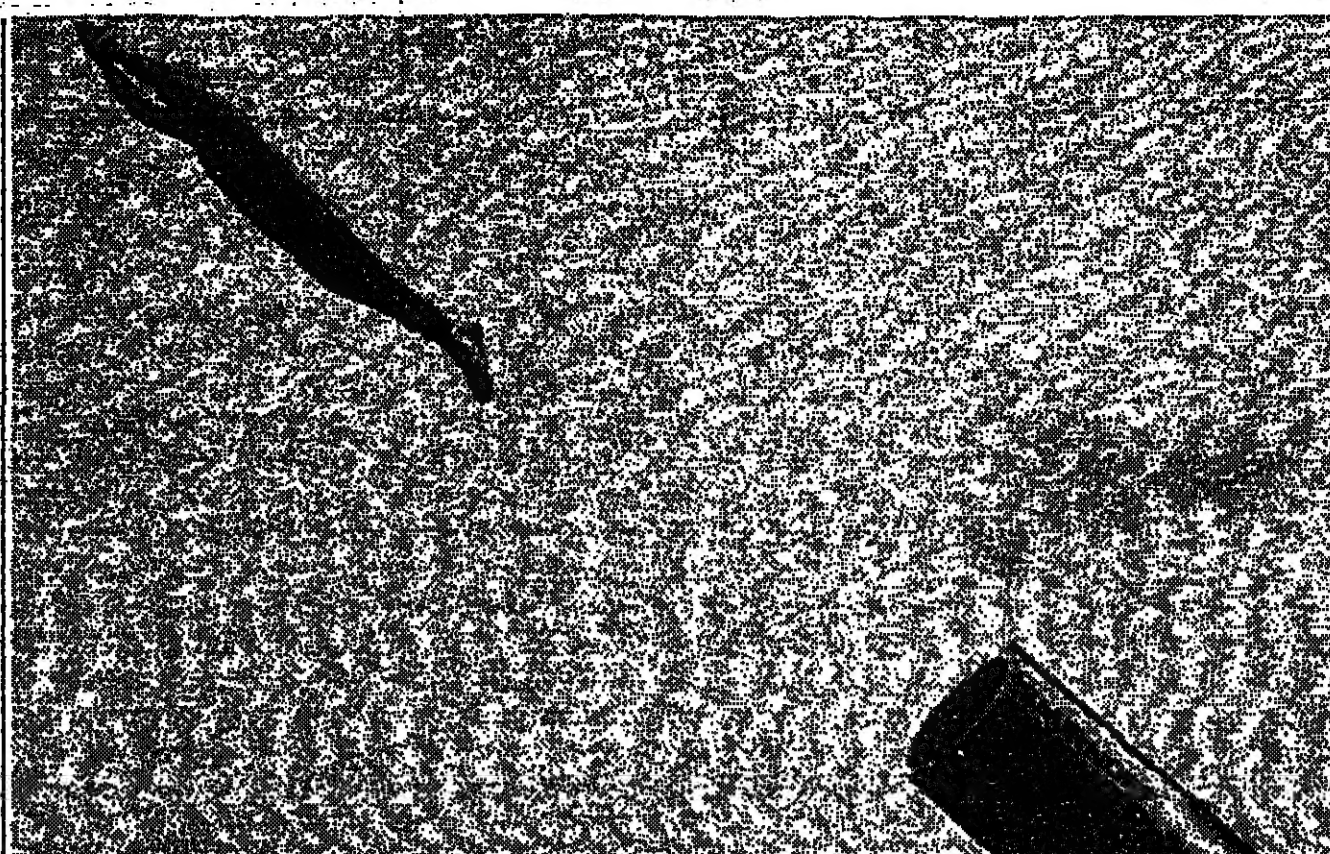
Male infertility 'underestimated'

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Doctors who do not take seriously enough the problem of male infertility are failing to help couples who have difficulties in conceiving, according to two doctors writing in *NACE*, journal of the National Association for the Childless.

Dr Michael Humphrey, of the Department of Psychology at St George's Hospital Medical School, Tooting, south London, says that a wife's failure to conceive because of her husband's inability to produce enough sperm is a high hurdle for any couple to overcome.

Their doctors tend to be men still in their reproductive phase, who feel uncomfortable



Mr Roy Thorn, a senior civil servant, being fired 150ft from a cannon yesterday in what his wife hoped was an escapade which would cure him of fast driving.

Mr Thorn, aged 46, a former ship's captain who is now a deskbound officer with the Ministry of Defence at Portsmouth working on international shipping movements, faced the cannon challenge in Copenhagen as part of a "great dreams" contest organized by the vodka firm, Smirnoff. His name was entered by his wife, who asked the drinks company to do something that would give her husband a sense of fear.

Mrs Bobby Thorn pulled the trigger of the cannon yesterday at a Copenhagen amusement park and sent him soaring into the air and into a net. After bouncing three times and performing a somersault, he stopped safely 15ft from the end of the net.

Mr Thorn, who will be 47 today, said afterwards: "It was a great relief when it was over. I do not think under any circumstances that I would do it again. I shall take it a little easier with the driving in the future."

He had prepared for the event for six months and lost 30lb in weight to ensure that he was fit for the big shot.

Fatal climb scouts are criticized

By Tim Jones and Rupert Morris

Venture Scouts will be back on the Brecon Beacon next weekend in spite of growing criticism over the Bank holiday exercise which ended in the death of a rescue team leader, killed by falling rocks as he used his body to protect an injured youth.

Yesterday, a Cardiff Scout leader, Mr Rob Davies, revealed that when the venture scouts, from Sennen Coldfield, near Birmingham, were on the slopes of the 2,900 feet high Pen y Fan, he had abandoned plans to take his troop on a similar trip.

"It was pretty treacherous and I don't think these people were terribly sure of the area. They were not local, and conditions can change so rapidly in those mountains. They were endangering their lives and the lives of others."

His condemnation of the training exercise was taken up by Mr Thomas Hooson, Conservative MP for Brecon and Radnor, who said: "I am rather upset that very good and helpful people are put at risk by the rather irresponsible conduct of people who are a bit too brave for their own good to go up into the mountains."

The West Midlands Scouts Association has launched an inquiry into the exercise, which ended so tragically when Mr Mike Radford, aged 38, a member of the Bridgend Mountain rescue team, was killed by falling rocks as he shielded one of the scouts, Martin Leather, aged 16, who had slipped and fallen 40 feet into a gully.

Major-General Michael Walsh who became Chief Scout last year and is known to be a firm advocate of "venture scouting", was not available for comment yesterday.

In his absence Mr Donald Mackintosh, the association's public relations officer, emphasized the strict safety measures taken on the basis of which all sorts of changes had been made.

Leading article, page 15

Heathrow supervisor helped smuggle cocaine

A corrupt British Airways baggage supervisor was convicted by a jury at the Central Criminal Court of helping smugglers to bring illicit cocaine worth millions of pounds into Britain through Heathrow airport.

Michael Ready, aged who was in charge of nearly sixty staff at the airport, had received £17,000 for by-passing customs checks with marked suitcases off flights from South America, Mr David Cooks QC, for the prosecution, said.

The jury was told that Ready had sent two children to Millfield School one of the most expensive, while earning a gross salary of £10,000.

He was convicted of conspiring to smuggle cocaine between April, 1980, and February, 1981, and of smuggling a shipment of six kilos of the drug, worth about £1m, on February 15, 1981.

Mr Cooks said that couriers brought the drug in suitcases, a single case sometimes contains more than £1m of cocaine from Peru or Venezuela. At Heathrow Ready and the staff whom he recruited for the enterprise took over a "simple effective, dishonest and highly profitable" operation Mr Cooks said. As members of the baggage staff, they were able to remove suitcase without arousing suspicion.

British Legion backs aid for war grave visits

By Michael Horsnell

The campaign for government assistance to enable war widows to visit the overseas graves of their husbands yesterday received a pledge of support from the Royal British Legion.

Major Robert Tomlins, general secretary of the legion, called on the Government to carry out an appraisal of the cost of such assistance, on the basis that only a small proportion of the country's 67,000 war widows would want to visit their husbands' graves.

Major Tomlins said: "The Falklands pilgrimage by the relatives of those who died has highlighted the sense of injustice felt by those widows who have not been able of afford to visit the graves of Servicemen killed in other conflicts. The Government should now work out the numbers and cost involved. In a caring society it should not be impossible to help."

Major Tomlins said: "So many widows of the Falklands said at last they had been able to come to terms with reality and live their lives again once they had made their pilgrimage. So many others have never had that opportunity. One day they had a husband and the next day they had a cable, and that is all they have ever had."

Listed house of potter demolished

A dispute broke out yesterday at Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, between a firm of demolition contractors and the city council after a listed building was knocked down at the weekend.

Cannon House, in Hanley, which was built by a master potter in the 18th century, was to have been converted into a night shelter for homeless people.

When city council planners returned to work yesterday they found that it had been reduced to rubble by K. P. Parnell, a demolition firm.

The firm had been intending to sell the building for conversion.

Mr Keith Parnell, one of the firm's owners said: "The building was weakened considerably when we were doing some other demolition work at the site and after a few days the structure looked very unsafe, so we decided to knock it down before anyone was injured."

Ronald Waldron remanded again

Ronald Waldron, who is alleged to have stated that he has "an irresistible urge to kill", is to be held in custody because there is a high likelihood that he would kill, Liverpool Magistrates' Court was told yesterday.

Mr Waldron, aged 37, was further remanded until May 10 accused of the murder of Andrew Waldron, aged five, his nephew. He is also charged with the attempted murder of Mrs Rosemary Waldron, and aggravated burglary at Speke, Liverpool, on April 23.

Holiday change plea rejected

The Government has no intention of changing the May Day holiday, a spokesman for the Department of Employment said yesterday. He said that there had been full consultations after the publication of a consultative document last year and no change had been recommended.

Mr Michael Montague, the chairman of the English Tourist Board, yesterday repeated his criticism of the timing of the holiday and suggested it should be moved to June.

Man accused of girl's murder

Keith Geoffrey Morris, aged 27, a fairground worker, of no fixed address, was remanded in custody until May 12 by magistrates in Cirencester, Gloucestershire, yesterday charged with the murder of Miss Suzanne Thatcher, aged 18, a groom, from Blaenau Ffestiniog, north Wales.

The girl's naked body was found in a copse on the 2,000-acre Cirencester Park Estate, owned by Lord Bathurst, during a Bank holiday weekend fair and horse show.

Woman bailed on drugs charges

Nicola Freud, aged 31, of Battersea, south-west London was granted unconditional bail when committed for trial at Croydon crown court when she appeared at South Western magistrates' court, in London, yesterday on five drug charges.

The charges included two of unlawfully supplying cocaine and one of unlawfully supplying cannabis. Reporting restrictions were not lifted.

Pony express

Neath Borough Council has granted a taxi licence for horse-drawn service. Mr Trevor Davies, aged 40, of Cliffrw, Neath, South Wales, hopes to ferry local people and tourists around the area in his pony and trap.

Educating RITA!



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Michael Caine & Julie Walters
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Heseltine denies smear of CND

NUCLEAR DEBATE

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament was against Nato, against Britain's independent nuclear deterrent, and against having nuclear deterrence behind our conventional forces, and in that respect was overwhelmingly rejected by the overwhelming majority of British people, Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, said in the Commons in reply to Mr Hugh Dykes (Harrow, East C).

He denied during question time that he had resorted to a policy of smears against CND. That the majority of the elected council of CND were from the left, ranging from the Labour Party to the Communist Party was a fact, not a smear.

He planned to visit the United States later this month and forward to taking the opportunity to discuss matters of mutual interest with Mr Casper Weinberger, the US Secretary of Defence.

There was laughter when Sir David Price (Eastleigh, C) commented that the simplest and most cogent reason for Britain retaining the nuclear deterrent was that we have kept the peace and to do anything other than pursue the policies that have guaranteed that peace would be a gamble. This Government will not gamble with the nation's defence.

Comments about CND came when Mr Heseltine said that so far this year he had received about 130 letters a month from MPs and members of the public on matters relating to the deployment of United States cruise missiles in this country.

Mr David Winnick (Walsall, North, Lab) said that the Government had clearly lost the argument over cruise that they are now resorting to a policy of smears, innuendoes and harassment against their critics, while refusing, like Mr Heseltine himself, to engage in open debate with their critics.

Since he is supposed to be leading the campaign against CND, why was he not present himself at last Sunday's demo, when he could have

joined a handful of people and a dog? Was it because there were no glamour involved or because it was raining?

Mr Heseltine: CND announced a few days ago that they were going to attack the Conservatives in the marginal seats. That is their democratic right so to do. But I thought it was important that I should make clear to those who were judging the decision they had taken, that the majority of the elected council of CND are from the left, ranging from the Labour Party to the Communist Party was a fact, not a smear.

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch and Ymington, C). He should be a little bit careful with CND. It would be disastrous for the Conservative Party if they were to collapse because they are most important to the Conservative prospect of re-election.

Those members of the Labour Party who appear to be motivated by pacifist fantasies should be invited to take television over the weekend to see what goes on in countries like Poland where tear gas and water cannon are used against people, and they would understand why we need adequately to defend ourselves and to ensure we do not have a society which descends to that sort of situation.

Mr Heseltine: His point will have been born in by the troubles over this weekend. As to the dangers to the Conservative prospect of re-election arising from the collapse of CND, I take issue. As long as we have the Labour Party, we will get re-elected.

Mr Kevin McNamara, an Opposition spokesman on defence and disarmament, (Kingston upon Hull, Central, Lab). He does not recall what was done by the RUC with tear gas and water cannon in Northern Ireland from 1969 onwards.

He has tried to stray from the argument about cruise. The agreement covers bases and not weapons and once the weapons are dispersed from the bases then the British Government will have no control over their future use.

Mr Heseltine: Perhaps he could explain why he was content with the Conservative Government having such an agreement.

Mr Dykes asked if the Secretary of State was satisfied with official

efforts to promote the basic arguments for multi-lateral disarmament both of nuclear and non-nuclear weapons.

Mr Heseltine: I think there is now greater public understanding of the Government's policy of deterrence and multi-lateral disarmament, but my ministerial colleagues and I will continue to take every suitable opportunity to put the message across.

Mr Douglas Jay (Wandsworth, Battersea North, Lab). When will he be putting this year's defence White Paper?

Mr Heseltine: I hope to do so shortly.

Mr John Silkin, chief Opposition spokesman on defence and disarmament (Leeds, Central, Lab). Is the reason why the Government is not represented at the Geneva talks at this moment that the Americans and Russians do not regard us as important enough or regard Britain's possession of nuclear weapons as utterly irrelevant to their discussions?

Mr Heseltine: It is extraordinary that he should have spent so much time supporting a Labour Government which attached so much importance to a British independent nuclear deterrent. You cannot be a member of an alliance with many members and expect all of them to negotiate with the one country which represents a significant threat, the Soviet Union.

We work in trust with our American allies as Labour did when in power, and negotiate with them in private about the terms they then present to the Soviet Union. That is the only practical way the alliance can work.

Mr Silkin: If the British nuclear deterrent is so important, why are we not at Geneva?

Mr Heseltine: The present focus of attention in Geneva is the intermediate range deployment of cruise weapons. These are American weapons and we are deeply consulted about the negotiations. We are not, in the context of those negotiations, discussing Britain's independent nuclear system.

Mr Heseltine: The degree of control we have over American bases and weapons in this country in respect of cruise missiles is the same as we have had over all other American systems since the 1950s.

Mr John Silkin: The overwhelming mass of people in this country want to be allies of the US but do not want to be a satellite of the US. He is misleading the House when he says that the cruise missile system follows the agreement made between Atlantic and Truman in 1951, when what we are dealing with here is not nuclear bases but a nuclear weapon that can be used on the roads of Britain and from any base anywhere.

Mr Heseltine: I am sure he does not want to be an American satellite but I do not know of anybody in this country who does, and I do not therefore see the purpose of the question.



Price: Constituent's view

Winnick: Argument lost

American colleague that although the British dislike nuclear weapons and expect the Government to press on with supervised, balanced disarmament, they are quietly and firmly of the view in the vast majority that the weapon must be retained in the defence of the Western world.

Mr Heseltine: I certainly will ensure that those sentiments are conveyed to my American opposite number. This Government has made its commitment to the twin track policy of negotiated disarmament and the development of intermediate range cruise missiles a clear commitment since we were elected.

Mr Richard Crawshaw (Liverpool, Toxteth, SDP). Will he raise the question of dual control because many of us who are quite satisfied with the present arrangements know that many of the public who wish for the retention of nuclear weapons are genuinely concerned that they could be used without our consent and we are in danger of losing the argument when we have got the best case going?

Mr Heseltine: The degree of control we have over American bases and weapons in this country in respect of cruise missiles is the same as we have had over all other American systems since the 1950s.

Mr John Silkin: The overwhelming mass of people in this country want to be allies of the US but do not want to be a satellite of the US. He is misleading the House when he says that the cruise missile system follows the agreement made between Atlantic and Truman in 1951, when what we are dealing with here is not nuclear bases but a nuclear weapon that can be used on the roads of Britain and from any base anywhere.

Mr Heseltine: I am sure he does not want to be an American satellite but I do not know of anybody in this country who does, and I do not therefore see the purpose of the question.

PM declares: I will not be hustled

GENERAL ELECTION

The Prime Minister will not be hustled into announcing the date of the General Election, she told MPs during question time in the Commons. Mrs Thatcher twice said that until the date of the election was announced in the usual way it would be "business as usual".

She was questioned by a Liberal and a Labour MP about the election date, Mr William Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) urging her to have the date announced before the local elections on Thursday, and Mr Alan Beith, the Liberal whip, asking what results were needed to make her believe she could safely call a June election.

Mr Beith (Berwick-upon-Tweed, L) asked: Is she not yet ready to name the day? What sort of results will there have to be on the local elections on Thursday to make her believe that she could safely go to the country in June?

Mrs Thatcher: When I decide to call an election it will be announced in the usual way. Until it is business as usual.

Sir Kenneth Lewis (Rutland and Stamford, C). When considering the likely policy for rates will she bear in mind that there are two main requirements? The first is that rates should be kept down and reduced for industry and business because high rates cost jobs. The second is that something should be done to prevent the outrageous and grossly extravagant rate by many Labour authorities.

Mrs Thatcher: I agree. It is important for jobs in industry and commerce to keep the rates down. It is as important for local authorities as it is for central government to control public expenditure.

Mr Beith: For the Leader of the Opposition: Tax increases from her Government have gone up eight times faster than rate increases. She agrees with the Liberal proposition that over the next three or four years there will be a further increase of 500,000 on the present rate of unemployment, total if present policies are continued?

Mrs Thatcher: With regard to taxes, real take-home pay fell under Labour. Under us it has risen. Over Labour's first four years real take-home pay for the man on average earnings fell under us it has risen by four per cent.

With regard to the forecast, the figures were not given in any way by

us. We do not forecast that far ahead.

Mr Foot: Where did the European Commission get these figures and on what estimate does she think they are based? Taxes imposed by her Government have gone up eight times faster than rate increases imposed by other authorities whether Labour or Conservative.

Mrs Thatcher: The proportion of gross income taken in tax payments increased more under the Labour Government. With regard to his points about the European Commission forecast, the organization made a calculation on increased output and productivity and came

to its conclusion from that, assuming that everything else would be the same.

He forgets that productivity per head has gone up enormously under this Government. That is why efficiency has gone up and we have a very good chance in the future.

Mr William Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab). Since she seems confident about winning the next election - Conservative cheers - why does Mrs Thatcher not have the guts to announce before the local elections whether or not she is having a June election?

Mrs Thatcher: I will not be hustled by anyone. I shall announce the date in the usual way. Until then it is business as usual.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30p): Police and Criminal Justice Bill, second reading. Lords (2.30p): Debate on Soviet penetration and influence in the Third World.

All-party move on electricity rejected

ENERGY BILL

An all-party amendment to the Energy Bill which would enable a local authority producing electricity from waste to use an electricity board's transmission and distribution system to supply that electricity to other premises occupied by the authority was rejected in the House of Lords by 114 votes to 80 - Government majority 34.

Lord Strabolgh, for the Opposition, moving the amendment during the Bill's report stage, said that at present only the Greater London Council directly generated electricity from waste but that local authorities to contribute in every possible way to the principle of energy conservation.

Lord Ezra (L), the former chairman of the National Grid Board, supporting the amendment, said that local authorities who took the initiative to generate electricity by using waste products should be entitled to negotiate with the electricity boards to transmit that electricity to other local authority locations.

This was what the Bill proposed for private enterprise which took the initiative to generate its own electricity. It did seem to be discrimination against the initiative which could be shown by local authorities.

The Earl of Aves, for the Government, said that local authorities had the right to generate electricity from waste and sell it to electricity boards, a right given to private generators for the first time in the Bill.

The Bill established a framework in which electricity boards would have to offer a fair price for electricity supplied by local authorities and so removed the local authorities' worst worry.

The only authority in a position to take advantage of this amendment would be the GLC. The Government thought it could be wrong at this stage to contemplate extending the powers of local authorities in the way the amendment proposed. The first priority for local authorities was to run their existing operations with the greatest possible efficiency.

The Bill was read a second time.

Hattersley attacks drafting

POLICE BILL

The Police and Criminal Evidence Bill was badly prepared, casually conceived and had been inadequately considered by MPs, Mr Roy Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, said during discussion on a motion to recommend the Bill to a committee of the whole House in respect of clauses 9 and 10.

These clauses concerned powers to enter premises to search for evidence of serious offences and evidence held on a confidential basis.

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, moving that clauses 9 and 10 be re-committed, said this met what the Government had promised to do, which represented a considerable change in the Bill.

Mr Hattersley said the Opposition did not propose to vote against this motion. But the Government, by this motion, was conceding that at least two clauses were so inadequately drafted that they had to start all over again.

If the Government was formally acknowledging this, MPs were entitled to wonder if two such controversial clauses proved so inadequate what assurances were there about the drafting of the rest of the Bill.

These proposals, which were intrinsically unacceptable in a free society, had been embodied in a Bill which was thoroughly and carefully considered in its drafting and preparation was wholly second rate.

As a result of the speed of its preparation, the Bill was inadequate thought out and consultations were hurried.

It was clear that Mr Whitelaw was prepared to abandon the whole Bill in the interests of finding an election date most to the advantage of the Conservative Party.

Mr Whitelaw had made an admission of failure: a confession not simply that two clauses were inadequate, but a question-mark had been put against the entire Bill.

not only trying to have it both ways but about five ways at once.

Once he had been convinced by the arguments put to him he could not believe that the House would expect him to reject them simply because they were not perfect. What was the point of having a Bill in a committee stage, if not to listen to people and to take account of what they said? He thought that was what Parliament was all about.

They should see how they got on when they went to consideration of

the Bill. He hoped the committee of the House would now proceed to discuss the new clauses which met the proper concerns expressed by those involved.

The motion was agreed to.

Minister sets out revised proposals

Power should not be given to the police capriciously or at whim to enter premises in search for evidence of a serious arrestable offence, Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State, Home Office, said during the report stage of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill when he moved a new Government clause setting out new procedure for searches.

Referring to anxiety expressed by the profession and the public about confidentiality, he said that had representations been expressed earlier during consultations and the period just after that, it might have been possible to have made changes

along the lines he now proposed somewhat sooner.

Mr Mayhew said the new clause supplanted Clause 9 of the Bill which was already respectable in case for scaling down the number of tactical nuclear weapons in western Europe, many of them elderly, and spending the money on improving conventional capabilities?

On the reasons for deploying tactical nuclear weapons in Europe, he said when asked if Nato had reduced the size of its short range battlefield weapon stockpile as a result of review.

Mr Blaker added: The Alliance is committed to maintaining the number of short range nuclear weapons at the minimum consistent with effective deterrence. The stockpile is being and will be kept under review to that end.

Mr Michael Mearns (Oldham, West Lab). There are still about 1,200 short range nuclear weapons deployed in Europe by Nato and 950 by the Warsaw Pact. Since Nato will not give a "no first use" declaration, Nato has a much better policy than that proposed by the Soviet Union no first use of any nuclear weapons.

We will never use any weapons unless attacked.

As for battlefield nuclear weapons, the rate of the Russian build-up of their nuclear capable artillery

Stockpile kept under review

NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Abolition of dependence on nuclear weapons as a deterrent would reduce the value of all conventional weapons, however big, to that of scrap metal, Mr Peter Blaker, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, stated during other Commons questions on defence.

Nato had withdrawn 1,000 nuclear warheads from Europe and announced its intention of withdrawing all tactical nuclear weapons from each Pershing II or ground-launched cruise missile deployed in Europe, he said when asked if Nato had reduced the size of its short range battlefield weapon stockpile as a result of review.

Mr Blaker added: The Alliance is committed to maintaining the number of short range nuclear weapons at the minimum consistent with effective deterrence. The stockpile is being and will be kept under review to that end.

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As for battlefield nuclear weapons, the rate of the Russian build-up of their nuclear capable artillery

is fairly rapid according to assessments.

Mr Cyril Townsend (Berkeley, Berkeleyshire, C). Would he confirm that the policy of the Government, if for scaling down the number of tactical nuclear weapons in western Europe, many of them elderly, and spending the money on improving conventional capabilities?

On the reasons for deploying tactical nuclear weapons in Europe, he said when asked if Nato had reduced the size of its short range battlefield weapon stockpile as a result of review.

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Petrol stations classed as US bases

PENSIONS

Mr Reg Race (Haringey, Wood Green, Lab) suggested that Mr Peter Blaker, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, might be numbering the House about the number of American bases in the United Kingdom.

Mr Blaker had told him that in addition to bases and facilities listed in previous answers should now be added RAF Kemble which, as forecast earlier by the Government, had recently been made available to the USAF for aircraft and equipment maintenance work.

Pools and Winchester should be deleted from the list.

Mr Rance: But why did he not have the right figure in the first place? Is President Reagan fooling Mr Blaker? Is Mr Blaker fooling the Commons by giving untrue information on base numbers? Why should the British people not know how many bases run by foreign forces there are on their soil?

Mr Blaker: We have published the number of bases and facilities which the United States has in this country. That was done recently. The Labour Party seems unable to distinguish between a base and a facility. We answered their question about bases.

On later allegations that there are more than 100 American bases and facilities here, they include 100, discover, two petrol stations and not one as formerly stated.

Narrowing gap before upratings

PENSIONS

The Government had more than kept its pledge to pensioners despite a world-wide recession, Lord Trefgarne, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, said when he moved the second reading of the Social Security and Housing Benefits Bill in the House of Lords.

The purpose of the Bill, which has been through the Commons, is to change the future basis of uprating social security benefits each year from the forecast method to a historic or actual method.

Lord Trefgarne said that under the present arrangements the forecast method was wrong five years out of seven. It is a historical method uprating beneficiaries. The time had come to get rid of the forecasting method which had proved to be unreliable.

The Government would be considering the possibility of further shortening the gap between forecast and actual uprating by the time this year's uprating would reflect the fact that prices from May 1982 to May 1983.

Lady Jeger, for the Opposition, said that Age Concern had suggested that as a result of the change the Government would save £105m in 1983. If the Government saved somebody else's money.

The Bill was read a second time.

Cruelty to wild animals

A Bill which would outlaw cruelty to all wild animals, including a ban on hunting, was given a first reading in the Commons after Mr Kevin McNamara (Kingston upon Hull, Central, Lab) said that one of the most wanton forms of inhumanity was that perpetrated by humans on animals for sheer pleasure.

Asking leave to bring in the Protection of Animals Act 1911 Amendment Bill, which the 10 minute rule, he said it should be seen as a pro-animals and not as an anti-hunting Bill. It went wider than

Labour party policy by including all wild animals.

One of the failures of such Bills in the past had been that they sought to deal with one particular practice thus drawing attention to an animal in a way to one animal rather than to all animals.

The majority of those living in the countryside were opposed to hunting, he said, but all creatures of a degree of dignity. They were entitled to be treated humanely and that was the objective of the Bill.

'Curb prices' tourist trade is warned

By David Nicholson-Lord

Hotels and holiday businesses were urged yesterday not to cash in on the predicted influx of American tourists this year by raising their prices by more than the rate of inflation.

The British Tourist Authority has forecast a record year for American tourism in Britain, with numbers expected to rise by 15 per cent over last year's figures and pass the two million mark for the first time. But there are already signs that hotels are preparing to meet them with tariff increases of 10 and 15 per cent.

Miss Laura Morgan, chairman of the British Incoming Tour Operators' Association, said that Britain was regaining its reputation of providing value for money, and London was shedding its image as the most expensive city in the world.

She said: "Things are looking good as long as hotels do not do what they have tried to do in the past and cash in on it. American travel wholesalers and agents are not stupid. They are very well aware of what prices should be."

Reasons for the optimistic

Top woman to enliven a borough

By Our Local Government Correspondent

Political activity in the staid borough of Westminster is certain to be enlivened by the election as council leader of a dynamic and colourful woman, Mrs Shirley Porter (right).

Her succession to the top job in the wealthiest London borough represents a victory for the "young Turks" among Westminster's Tories who in recent years have chafed under the traditional municipal leadership of Mr David Cobbold.

Westminster is now likely to take a more active role in opposing the Labour-controlled Greater London Council and in privatizing council services.

As chairman of Westminster's highways and cleansing committee, Mrs Porter pioneered the introduction of sponsored litter bins in central London and the French-designed "superbins" in Leicester Square and Soho. Mrs Porter, aged 52, is the daughter of the founder of Tesco Stores Ltd, Colton, and wife of the firm's chairman, Mr Leslie Porter. She



said yesterday that through her background she hoped that she brought "business skills" to the council, but said she disliked the word privatization. "The council may be in areas where council employees can provide a better service. Nonetheless we must look at all our service to check if needs have changed. She promised new initia-

tives in the council's libraries and recreation services. "I intend Westminster to be a flagship for the inner London boroughs", she said.

Umpiring a gentlemen's contest

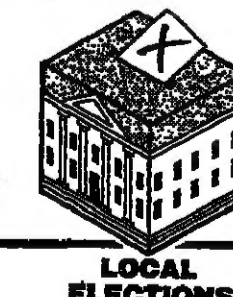
By David Walker, Local Government Correspondent

"From Christmas on they are looking over their shoulders at the elections", Mr Geoffrey Danson, Cambridge town clerk, said, adding that there was nothing with such a moderating effect on councillors as the imminence of the hustings.

In Cambridge tomorrow a third of the councillors are up for election and Mr Danson is the umpire of what amounts to a rather gentlemanly, semi-private contest. On him falls the job of preparing electoral registers, organizing the postal vote, checking nominations, administering the oath of secrecy to poll clerks and, on polling day, making a grand tour of the city's thirty or so polling stations.

Mr Danson, who has officiated at almost fifty elections during his local government career, still admits to a sense of occasion when he stands on the podium to announce the results.

As a good bureaucrat he is impartial and, unlike the Whitehall civil servant, makes no plans for a change of administration. He gives the impression, however, that he would not be too disappointed if Cambridge continued as it is; a council with no overall control but with Labour, the largest party,



LOCAL ELECTIONS

running affairs on the basis of "sensible understanding" with the Conservatives, Liberals and Social Democrats.

Cambridge is like scores of other medium-sized shire districts. Beneath the party flamboyance there is a considerable degree of unity between the parties. But, it being Cambridge, there is much talk about the "calibre" of the candidates.

Mr William Walton, the local SDP coordinator, said: "The first thing we are trying to do is offer quality candidates."

He defined quality as the possession of social awareness, intellect and the capacity for hard work.

The Cambridge election will none the less be a useful test of the parties' standing. The local Labour Party is, by the standards of the big cities, moderate

and relatively free from inter-party strife. The SDP is strong and proud of carrying a standard for Mr Matthew Ouseforth, its parliamentary candidate, relations with the Liberals are close.

The Conservatives, said by the other parties to have a problem of "quality", seem to have lost touch in a city where, until 1974 they ruled the roost. Mr Robert Rhodes James, the sitting Conservative MP, suffers from being a "wet" in marginal seats with new bound-

aries which do not favour him; and from being at some distance, socially and intellectually, from his local party activists.

Mr Sidney Reid, leader of the Conservative councillors, said that it was unrealistic to be looking for control of the council. He hoped to pick up a couple of Labour seats and was attacking hard on the right of council tenants to buy their homes, on rates and on the need to plan for emergencies.

The victor in the Cambridge elections will undoubtedly be the popular municipal cause, the apathy party. Even Mr Colin Rosensfield, the Liberal leader and an assiduous community politician, concluded: "People seem less concerned about council elections this year than last."

TO EVERYONE CONSIDERING A COMPUTER FOR THEIR COMPANY

A VERY OPEN LETTER.

If we asked you to name the first computer company that came into your head, nine times out of ten we'd get the same answer.

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We would like to introduce you to ICL's commitment to opening up the lines of communication within your company.

We will tell you how ICL have developed distributed office systems, designed to open up your company's most valuable resource: information.

We'll show how ICL can help put the right information on the desks of the right people. We'll show how ICL can help those people make the best use of that information. And we'll show how, in turn, that information will open up the potential that lies within your company.

In time, we might come to convince you that 'computer company' is a very inadequate word indeed to describe what ICL represents.

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We should be talking to each other.

ICL

Bishops against nuclear war

Pastoral letter defies Reagan

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

America's Roman Catholic bishops yesterday concluded two days of intense debate on their pastoral letter on war and peace by toughening their stand against nuclear weapons. In so doing they rebuffed attempts by the Reagan Administration to tone down sections of the 150-page letter dealing with the production, deployment and use of such weapons.

The letter entitled "The challenge of peace: God's promise and our response", is 34,200 words long, which is about 17 times longer than the Sermon on the Mount, Christianity's first pastoral statement of peace.

The length of the letter probably says as much about episcopal loquaciousness as it does about the complexities of the issues on which the 288 bishops have been deliberating at their two-day special session in Chicago.

The way in which sections of the document were changed, revised and changed again over the past few months indicates the importance which both the bishops themselves and the Reagan Administration have attached to its final wording.

The number of amendments which the bishops have been considering to the 153-page

third draft - over 500 of them - also reflects the difficulties in interpreting a twentieth century concept of a "just war".

Although the letter is not morally binding on the country's 51 million Catholics it will be made an integral part of the educational programme of Catholic schools and institutions and will have an immense impact in the national debate on the morality of nuclear warfare and the pros and cons of a nuclear weapons freeze.

The Administration will not be happy with the text which



Cardinal Bernardin: The challenge of peace.

bishops finally approved. In a clear rebuff to the Reagan Administration's nuclear deterrence and arms control policies, the document concludes that it is "morally unjustifiable to initiate nuclear war in any form".

In so doing it openly contests the Administration's refusal to endorse a "no first use" policy for nuclear weapons.

The bishops also called for a "halt" rather than a "curb" in the production and deployment of nuclear weapons. The word "halt" had been used in the first two drafts but was changed to "curb" in the third after discreet arm-twisting by the Administration. However, on Monday the bishops voted overwhelmingly to revert to the word "halt".

Some bishops regarded this change as an endorsement of a nuclear freeze. Before the two-day session started Archbishop John Roach, of St Paul-Minneapolis, who is president of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, told reporters that in his view the word "halt" and "freeze" meant the same thing.

Aware of the impact which the pastoral letter will have on American public opinion, the Administration had sought to tone down some of its language.

Letters defending the Administration's arms control policies were sent to the bishops.

Explaining the thrust of the letter Cardinal Joseph Louis Bernardini, Archbishop of Chicago and chairman of the five-man drafting committee, said it was "to set the voice of the bishops of the United States against the technological dynamic of the nuclear arms race."

"The letter calls for stopping the race, reversing its direction, eliminating the most dangerous weapons systems and establishing the need for decisive political action to move world politics away from a fascination with means of destruction towards a world order in which war will be consigned to history as a method of settling disputes."

The Administration will at least derive some relief from sections of the letter dealing with the Soviet Union. It acknowledges the "fact of a Soviet threat" as well as the existence of a Soviet imperial drive for hegemony in regions of strategic interest to that country.

It also says that Americans need have no illusions about the Soviet system of repression and the lack of respect in that system for human rights, nor about Soviet covert operations.

UN bodies clash on health care

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

The World Health Organization (WHO) has warned other international bodies not to start projects in developing countries that divert scarce resources away from the organization's global programme aimed at ensuring primary health care for all by the year 2000.

The warning came in the form of a sharp attack yesterday by Dr Halfdan Mahler, Director-General of WHO, on those responsible for "fragmented health action dictated from the outside". This, he told the 159-member World Health Assembly in Geneva, would lead only to "another cycle of international health neo-colonialism".

According to WHO officials, his remarks were directed mainly at Unicef, the UN children's fund, under whose aegis special immunization campaigns for infants, as well as birth control programmes, are being carried out in several countries.

Dr Mahler said those responsible for separate initiatives were "negatively impatient" with WHO's systematic efforts being steadily pursued worldwide.

Princess dines with Zia

From Michael Hamlyn, Islamabad

Princess Anne arrived in Pakistan yesterday the first member of the Royal Family to visit Islamabad since the execution of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the former Prime Minister, in April, 1979.

British diplomats emphasized that the Princess's visit was an informal private tour, undertaken as patron of the Save The Children Fund. None the less a dinner was given in her honour by the President Zia Ul-Haq last night, and she stayed overnight at the government guest house.

The Duke of Edinburgh has visited Pakistan recently, in connexion with the World

Wildlife Fund. However, he did not visit the new capital.

The Princess, wearing blue and white, was greeted at the airport by the head of protocol in the Foreign Ministry and by Dr Atiya Inayatullah, Minister of State for Population Planning, one of two women of that rank in the government. Dr Inayatullah will accompany the Princess during her tour.

On her way to a black Mercedes limousine the Princess walked along a long line of local officials, none of whom was wearing Western dress. Obeying a presidential fiat, the men were wearing the shalwar, baggy trousers, and either a

kameez, a long shirt worn with dangling tails, or a shawl, the high-necked formal frock coat in cream or black.

The women's heads were covered with cow-like *doppattas*. The only Western suits and ties belonged to British embassy officials.

A double line of Girl Guides in white shawls, *kameez* and pinnis, threw rose petals. Later, under the stifling shade of a brightly coloured *shamiani*, local equivalent of a marquee, the Princess unveiled the foundation stone of a British Council library to be erected on a prime site near the centre of Islamabad.

Bombs mark Afghan anniversary

From Our Own Correspondent, Islamabad

Increased guerrilla activity in Afghanistan marked the fifth anniversary last week of the Marxist takeover of the country, according to reports reaching here.

Travellers say that some hospitals were filled with wounded and doctors were summoned from rest days to cope with the victims of landmine and bomb attacks in a number of centres.

Western diplomats said that a military aircraft arrived at Kabul airport carrying more than a hundred wounded soldiers from heavy fighting in Paktia close to the Pakistan

border. It was the largest number of casualties flown from a single mission, the diplomats added.

The bulk of the wounded civilians came from an incident on the morning of the anniversary when a convoy of buses full of young people drove on to landmines while travelling from Ghazni to Kabul.

According to travellers' reports, the first two buses in a convoy of five or six safely passed, but the next three were blown up. Badly mutilated people were taken to the city's hospitals.

The young people were said to belong to an organization known as the Defence of the Revolution, and were heading for a celebration parade in the capital.

Two days earlier, at a Soviet-built housing complex, where Russian advisers and senior Afghan officers live, there were two bomb explosions at separate entrances. According to diplomats, five people were believed to have been killed.

Western diplomats said that in the days preceding the anniversary there were at least 30 assassinations of government supporters.



Lima scare: Martha Garcia Calderon, a student, screaming at a policeman who she claimed shot her in the leg as President Belaunde Terry of Peru drove through Lima on Monday. Police said a presidential guard's gun had gone off accidentally. Two other people were slightly injured.

Argentine police shoot top rebel

From Katherine Donnan, Beirut

Buenos Aires (NYT) - A man described as a leading terrorist has been killed in a gun battle at a farmhouse outside the provincial capital of Cordoba.

The Cordoba police and the 3rd Army Corps, which has its headquarters there, said over the weekend that the man killed on Saturday was Raul Clemente Yaguer, reputed to be the chief of staff and possibly the No 2 man in the leftist Montonero terrorist group.

The police also said that they uncovered a cache of grenades, revolvers, terrorist manuals, and blank Argentine and foreign documents in a raid on a suburban house on Sunday. It was unclear whether the death of Señor Yaguer had led to the raid.

Señor Yaguer is the first reputed terrorist to have been killed in Argentina in at least three years. The federal police said last week that they had found a cache of small arms in a suburban house in Ayellamedia, an industrial town bordering Buenos Aires.

According to the official reports Señor Yaguer was driving on the outskirts of the city on Saturday when he realized he was being followed by undercover police agents. He tried to elude the police by going into a farmhouse.

Police and Army intelligence agents surrounded the house and ordered Señor Yaguer to surrender, the reports said. He refused, opened fire, and was killed in the ensuing gunfight.

'Lots of headway' in Shultz shuttle

From Katherine Donnan, Beirut

Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, returned to Beirut yesterday for his third round of talks with Lebanese officials, saying en route from Jerusalem that he has made "lots of headway" toward an agreement on the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

Mr Shultz conceded, however, that "major problems" remained unresolved. An American official who briefed reporters said Mr Shultz was carrying with him the latest version of a draft agreement to present to the Lebanese side, adding that if it was accepted "we will be very close to a final agreement".

He added: "Either we get it this week or it will take another month".

But Mr Elie Salem, the Lebanese Foreign Minister, emerged from meetings with Mr Shultz and said he doubted it would take two or three days to solve all the problems still pending, but he did not flatly rule out that an agreement could be reached. "Miracles do happen", he said.

Judging by statements from both Mr Shultz and Israeli officials in the past two days, there are some grounds for optimism that an agreement, at least on paper, may be completed within the coming few days. But there is scepticism here that even if a written agreement is reached it may take some time before any progress is made on the ground.

Mr Shultz is due in Paris on May 9 for a meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

He still plans to travel to Syria and make brief stops in Jordan and Arabia before leaving the Middle East.

● JERUSALEM: Israel was reported yesterday to be softening its position on the future role of Major Saad Haddad after its withdrawal from Lebanon, eliciting a sharp retort from the renegade Lebanese major that he was "not for sale". David Bernstein writes.

Unconfirmed reports that Israel may be prepared to drop its insistence that Major Haddad remain overall commander of Lebanese forces in southern Lebanon appeared in the Israeli press after a marathon round of talks between officials on Monday night.

Major Haddad, however, yesterday firmly rejected any notion that he might be prepared to agree to a lesser role in southern Lebanon.

● AMMAN: A senior Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) envoy has met King Hussein of Jordan for the first high-level meeting since joint talks on President Reagan's Middle East peace plan were broken off last month.

Mr Hani al-Hassan, adviser to Mr Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader, told Reuters he had a 90-minute meeting with the King on Monday night during which they agreed the need for continued contacts.

● DAMASCUS: President Hafez al-Assad of Syria received Mr Arafat here yesterday, the first time they had met formally since September, a presidential spokesman said, Reuters reports.

Pretoria accused of murder mission

Johannesburg - Mazambique claims to have captured a South African military intelligence officer who says he was sent in to the country to take part in an attempt to assassinate President Samora Machel, Michael Hornsby writes.

The South African, identified as Pieter Benjamin Schoeman, was shown on Mozambique television. He told an interviewer that he had been given several missions, one of which was "the assassination of the President of Mozambique during the fourth congress of Frelimo". The ruling Frelimo Party congress ended last Saturday.

His other tasks had included collecting information about the Cabora Bassa dam, the Post and Telecommunications Office and the Polana Hotel in Maputo, which housed many of the foreign guests at the congress.

The South African Defence Force maintained yesterday that no trace of a Pieter Schoeman existed in army records.

Judge overturns Mobil verdict

Washington (Reuters) - A federal district judge has overturned a jury verdict that the Washington Post should pay \$2.5m (£1.5m) to the president of Mobil Oil for libel. Judge Oliver Marsh said there was no evidence that the newspaper was being malicious in its 1979 article about business dealings between the Mobil president and a London shipping firm.

Swiss swindle

Zurich (AP) - Mr Sadeh Tabatabai, an envoy of Ayatollah Khomeini, was swindled out of 90m Swiss francs (£28m) paid to Swiss arms dealers for 30 American-built tanks which were never delivered. The Zurich district prosecutor said that an indictment was being prepared against three Swiss nationals.

Madrid violence

Señor Jorge Verstrynge, the deputy leader of Spain's right-wing opposition Popular Alliance party, who was punched and had bottles thrown at him during a tour of Madrid yesterday. He is seeking election as the capital's mayor.

Gulf slick

Kuwait (Reuters) - Iran has reached an understanding with six Gulf states on how to tackle the huge oil slick caused by damaged Iranian wells at the head of the Gulf. Iraq has offered a limited ceasefire in the Nowruz area, but Iran has repeatedly said this was inappropriate.

Briton drowns

Copenhagen (AP) - Desmond Reid, a 27-year-old British student in Denmark, was washed overboard while in a catamaran and drowned. His body was identified by a friend who was with him when he fell into the Oeresund near Copenhagen on Sunday.

Comecon delay

Moscow (Reuters) - A long-awaited summit meeting of the communist trading alliance Comecon, scheduled for this month, has been postponed because of disputes within the group, according to East European sources. A new date had not been set.

Strikers return

Abidjan (Reuters) - The Ivory Coast's longest strike appeared to be coming to an end yesterday with most teachers, doctors and lecturers obeying the Government's order to return to work.

Bangladesh toll

Dhaka (Reuters) - Fresh storms have lashed parts of Bangladesh bringing the death toll to 75 while floods have made about 50,000 people homeless in the Sylhet district of eastern Bangladesh.

Drugs swoop

Paris (AFP) - French customs officials announced they had smashed a Franco-African ring smuggling cannabis into France and drugs into Ghana. Four Ghanaians and one Arab were arrested.

Deadly drinking

Singapore (Reuters) - Two Soviet sailors died and three others lost their sight after a weekend drinking session here. The sailors had apparently suffered methyl alcohol poisoning.



Ann is deaf and blind

The RNID cares for her and others similarly handicapped in their new Deaf/Blind centre in Bath. The whole of her life will require constant loving care and supervision but this costs a lot of money. The RNID also promotes medical research and provides extensive scientific, technical, educational, welfare and information services. Please help us all you can.

RNID. The Royal National Institute for the Deaf.

Please send what you can afford to RNID, Room DB, 105 Gower Street, London WC1E 6AH. For details telephone 01-387 6033.

Decision day for EEC on future course to avoid bankruptcy

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The European Commission is facing its moment of truth. Today, it must get off the fence and take a firm decision on what path the Community should follow if it is to survive into the future.

The present 14-man Commission has not been noteworthy for its decisiveness but if it proves unequal to this task the EEC could be reduced quickly to a shadow of its former high hopes and influence, and bankrupt of ideas and money. The acid test will come on June 6, when the European summit gets under way in Stuttgart.

Due to the runaway cost of the common agricultural policy, the Community is in imminent danger of running out of cash. The Commission has therefore got to find new funds at a time when most EEC governments are discovering the virtues of holding back public spending.

It had been having to do that inside a straightjacket which has been firmly attached by Mrs Margaret Thatcher. She is insisting on a fairer system of assessing contributions, which would mean Britain was no longer responsible for providing one-fifth of all the Community's money while being eligible to receive only one-tenth of its benefits.

Mrs Thatcher has made it quite clear that she will make the Community suffer if the Commission fails to come up with what she considers are the right answers. There are those in Brussels who believe she would definitely like a big row with the Community if she were to decide on a June election in order to confine Labour's policy of withdrawal from the EEC.

To meet Mrs Thatcher's urgent demand, the Commission has been forced at last to face up to a very unpleasant fact. If Britain pays less to the Community, then other countries will have to pay more.

In endless, bitter argument down the years, most other countries have refused to accept such an idea. The much-vaunted European spirit evaporates the moment money is mentioned.

Inability to find a way to cut through this un-European argument has meant the Commission has for too long dithered about coming forward with proposals. In the process its indecision has made it run foul not only of the Council of Ministers but of its natural ally, the European Parliament, which is now ready, willing and able to dismiss it for incompetence.

It has also meant that the Community is running out of time if it is to save off bankruptcy. The Council has only one formal and one informal meeting to make significant progress before Mrs Thatcher calls them to account in Stuttgart.

The failure last week to reach agreement on farm prices for the year ahead is further souring the atmosphere.

The broad outline of the Commission's ideas has already been well-leaked in traditional, Community kite-flying fashion. There will probably be a tax based on agricultural production - and France will not be alone in rejecting that.

There is expected to be a tax on oil consumption - and that will probably please nobody. There will most likely be a scheme to oblige member states to double the amount of money they can be asked to pay over according to a scale based on value-added tax receipts - and Britain and West Germany have promised to veto any such ideas.

If that is the best the commissioners could agree among themselves one can only wonder what took them so long. Or are they playing a dangerous game of brinkmanship, believing the twin threats of bankruptcy and an irate Mrs Thatcher will stampede the Council into an agreement?

Negotiating the package in the four short weeks available before the crucial Stuttgart summit seems, on past performance, to be impossible. It will be further complicated because Mrs Thatcher is insisting that a short-term agreement to give Britain a 1983 rebate must be agreed by the summit.



Man dies in ferry fire

Passengers rescued from a fire on a car ferry being helped ashore yesterday in Egersund, southern Norway. One man died in the fire in the Norwegian ferry Bolero, and two other passengers needed medical treatment, Renter and AP report. One was suffering from smoke inhalation and the other had suffered a heart attack. The dead man, a Czech, was said to have probably gone illegally to the car deck to sleep in his car, and died from asphyxia.

The 364 passengers and 65 crew on the 11,350-ton Bolero were evacuated and taken to towns along the south coast of Norway. The ship, owned by Fred Olsen Company of Oslo, was sailed by the remaining crew to Egersund. She was reported to be listing as a result of water used to bring the flames under control.

Police said the fire started in a container load of aluminium waste being carried on the car deck.

Submarine hunt widens off Swedish coast

Stockholm (AP) - Swedish defence units have confirmed that at least one foreign submarine is operating off northern Sweden and have indications that another intruder might be lurking in a fjord off the opposite coast, the defence staff disclosed yesterday.

During the night, military units made contact with an unidentified submarine in the coastal area off Sundsvall, 252 miles north of Stockholm.

"We have had reports both from civilians and from military units confirming the existence of at least one submarine," Commander Sten Svedlund of the naval staff said. "Some observations indicate there might be more than one intruder."

The Swedish Navy has searched for foreign submarines off Sundsvall for five days. Earlier observations were made by civilians, with some witnesses even reporting seeing a periscope in the harbour of Sundsvall.

The defence staff also said that another foreign submarine might be violating Swedish territory in Gullmarfjorden, 62 miles north of Göteborg during the night.

Helicopters and naval ships were involved in the submarine hunt yesterday.

STAVANGER: The Norwegian Navy continued its six-day hunt for a suspected foreign submarine yesterday after a patrol aircraft dropped more depth charges without result.

Nato briefs Warsaw Pact in secret

From Harry Debelius Madrid

A team of Nato diplomats took a step here yesterday towards bringing the conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe to a close. They briefed Warsaw Pact delegates at a secret informal session on the few changes which the West considers essential in the latest proposal for a final document.

A British delegate was a member of the Western team of four chosen by delegates of all Nato countries to set out their views. The others were from the United States, West Germany and Norway, according to reliable sources.

The Warsaw Pact team is understood to have been made up of representatives of the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Romania.

It was not immediately known whether the East European diplomats presented any suggestions of their own for changes in the draft of the proposed document.

The content of the West's message was also kept secret initially, although it was known that the number of points raised was small, and there was a widespread feeling among Western diplomats that the Soviet block would at least agree to discuss them.

Acceptance of those points for discussion, even if only in further secret informal meetings, would head off the possibility of a deadlock at this review conference.

Softer Ottawa line

Final commitment to testing denied

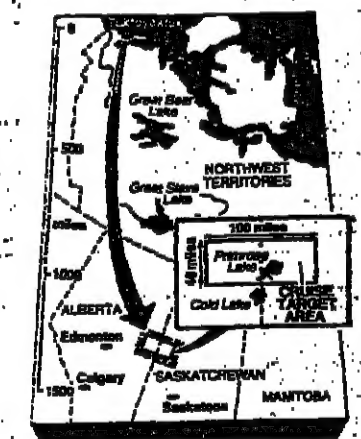
In his second and final article, JOHN BEST, Ottawa Correspondent, looks at moves by Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, to play down the controversy over proposed cruise missile tests in Canada.

The Government of Mr Pierre Trudeau is caught in a trap, mostly of its own making, on the contentious issue of allowing the Americans to test cruise missiles in western Canada.

A leak of the testing plan in Washington, back in the autumn of 1981, caught the Government badly off balance and it has been struggling ever since to take control on the issue.

By the time the tests begin early next year, as tentatively scheduled, opponents will have had more than two full years to mobilize their protest campaign. By that time, also, deployment of the cruise is scheduled to have started with Nato forces in Europe, which leads critics to ask why the experiments are needed.

The noisy protest campaign resulted in a government about-face this year, when it decided



to repudiate a statement made last year by Mr Mark MacGuigan, who was then External Affairs Minister, that Canada had already agreed to the testing. The line now is that no final commitment has been made.

All in all, a certain softness has crept into the Government's position, which the organizers of the "refuse the cruise" campaign, both in Parliament and on the streets, clearly find exploitable.

The Prime Minister, never a hawk on East-West Relations, often looks uncomfortable in putting the case for the tests.

He keeps saying that no promises have been made to the Americans, and that the Government will take into account the progress of US-Soviet talks on eliminating or reducing medium-range missiles in Europe.

The Americans, however, give every indication that they regard the coming negotiations between the Canadian and US defence departments as a mere formality and Mr Paul Robinson, the outspoken US Ambassador here, confidently predicts that the testing pro-

Yugoslav party alert

From Dena Terevan, Belgrade

The Yugoslav Communist Party's Central Committee may hold some party officials personally responsible for any failure to implement its economic programme.

The committee, which met last week, concluded that there was a need for a unified effort to act against what it described as "negative trends".

So far, the Government has relied solely upon appeals to try to implement the Central Committee's policies, but these

programme will get under way early next year.

Canadian leaders have so far refused to address another contradiction in their position, which could come back to haunt them should US-Soviet negotiations produce an agreement which renders cruise deployment in Europe unnecessary.

Mr Trudeau, in his efforts to persuade public opinion of the need for the cruise tests, repeatedly cites Canada's obligations to Nato.

"I think we would be pretty poor partners of an alliance if we said: 'Well we won't even do that,'" he said in March in a dinner toast here to Mr George Bush, the visiting US Vice-President, in what is regarded as perhaps his strongest statement on the issue. "In that case I think we would have to make up our minds and get out of Nato."

A short time later, at a question-and-answer session with students in Toronto, Mr Trudeau said: "If Nato and Europe did not need these Euro-missiles, I would guess we would not consider testing them."

Yet it is not the ground-launched cruise missile (GLCM), the type scheduled for stationing in Europe, that the Americans want to test in Canada. It is the air-launched version (ALCM).

Canadian officials try to brush aside the contradiction by saying that the guidance systems of the two versions are practically the same. However, there is every indication that the Americans would still want to press ahead with ALCM testing even if it turned out that no cruise were needed in Europe.

Thus in attempting to meet the onslaught of his domestic critics the Prime Minister could be setting the stage for a row later on with the Americans, who have never been that impressed by Canada's contribution to collective defence.

The 1,500-mile-range unarmed missiles will be launched over Canada's Northwest Territories, ending in a retrieval area straddling the Alberta-Saskatchewan border 100 miles or so northeast of Edmonton.

Escort aircraft would monitor each flight of the subsonic missile, and would attempt to abort it should it start to behave erratically. The test corridor is extremely sparsely populated.

In wartime, fully-armed cruise missiles might be launched by the US Air Force from the same area but in the opposite direction, towards targets in the Soviet Union.

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ABBEY NATIONAL MONEY SERVICE

West German Chancellor puts aside domestic squabbling to entertain Spain's Prime Minister

Kohl programme under close scrutiny for concessions to Strauss

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Dr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, presents his Government programme to Parliament today and politicians of all parties will be watching closely to see what changes and concessions, if any, he has made to Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the powerful right-wing Prime Minister of Bavaria.

In the past two days Herr Strauss has been publicly calling for "corrections" in Government policy, and on Monday he summoned the five Cabinet ministers of his Christian Social Union (CSU) to Munich to discuss their bitter dispute over future policy with the Free Democrats (FDP) who are also partners in the coalition.

His calls have been seen as a provocative challenge to the authority of Dr Kohl who is being urged by his supporters to stand up to Herr Strauss. Observers say Dr Kohl must make it clear in his declaration today that he is pursuing his own policy and not bowing to pressure from Bavaria, otherwise doubts about the viability of the coalition will be reinforced.

Herr Strauss said the changes he wanted were "not dramatic"

but declined to give details. The two areas where the Bavarian leader, who failed in his attempt after the general election to take the Foreign Ministry for himself, has voiced the harshest criticism are foreign policy and relations with East Germany. In both he wants an end to talks by Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, of "continuity" and a sharp turn to the right.

The quarrel with the Free Democrats was started by the death on the East German border of Herr Rudolf Burkert, a West German traveller to Berlin, last month and the subsequent attack by Herr Strauss on Bonn's policy towards East Berlin and its invitation to Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader to come here.

Both the CSU and the FDP saw this as a test case of who wielded the greater influence in the coalition, and attacks on each other became bitterly personal. Herr Jürgen Millmann, Secretary of State in the Foreign Ministry, said Herr Strauss was a psychiatric case. "We all know that he's got a

screw loose", he told *Der Spiegel* magazine.

Friction between the two parties is also especially marked in the Ministry of the Interior, where the liberals oppose the right-wing views and proposals of Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, a CSU minister.

Dr Kohl has called on his government partners to stop their squabbling. The Social Democratic opposition has taunted him with being powerless to overrule Herr Strauss, but the Chancellor has pretended to ignore the challenge.

● MOSCOW: Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, arrived in Moscow yesterday for an official visit and was met by Mr Yuri Andropov the Soviet party leader, *Reuters* reports.

It was the first time Mr Andropov had gone to greet a visiting national leader on arrival and the gesture was evidently intended to emphasize the close alliance between East Berlin and Moscow. Herr Honecker is the first Soviet block leader to come for extended talks since Mr Andropov came to power last November.



Four in harmony: Señor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister (left, above) and Chancellor Helmut Kohl during a press conference in Bonn yesterday. Nearby, Frau Hannelore Kohl (left, below) and Señora Carmen González held their own talks.



González reassures Bonn on Nato

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn

Señor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, said here yesterday that his country remained a part of the Atlantic Alliance, although it had frozen its integration into Nato's military structure.

He said after meeting with Dr Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, that the final decision on membership would be left to the Spanish people to vote in a plebiscite. Spain would, meanwhile, not do anything to

weaken Nato's position during the current negotiations.

Señor González is making his first overseas visit since his election victory. Dr Kohl promised him Bonn's "energetic support for Spanish entry into the European Community", and said that without Spain Europe remained a torso.

At the same time he told Señor González that Bonn did not believe all the obstacles

could be overcome in time to allow Spanish membership during the remainder of the German presidency of the Community.

Relations between Spain and West Germany are very good, and both sides promised a deepening of their cooperation. Dr Kohl was clearly anxious to hear the views of the new Socialist Government on security and East-West relations.

Nakasone wins support for new defence policy

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

Japan was finding "very encouraging" support in South-East Asia for its new extended defence policy, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Japanese Prime Minister, said last night at the end of his official visit to Thailand.

The Thai Government had welcomed Japan's proposal to defend seafarers as a contribution to peace and stability. Mr Nakasone said, General Prem Tinsulanonda, the Prime Minister, had described the new defence strategy as very appropriate for the situation in the area.

Mr Nakasone said he had received similar assurances from Malaysia and Singapore. Although the Philippines had expressed misgivings, he hoped to obtain President Marcos's understanding during his coming visit to Manila.

Mr Nakasone, at a press conference, reiterated Japan's support for the Association of

South-East Asian Nations and in particular Thailand, as the frontline state in its confrontation with Vietnam over Cambodia.

Japan, he said, would continue its freeze on all economic cooperation with Vietnam, including aid, until it withdrew from Cambodia.

Mr Nakasone said that during his visit to South-East Asia he had never heard the words "yellow peril", normally a term applied to the Japanese during their period of military aggrandizement. "That term surely has gone forever from the dictionaries," Mr Nakasone said.

Mr Nakasone and General Prem yesterday signed notes of agreement under which Japan will extend a loan of \$281m (£178m) to Thailand for industrial and agricultural projects, and will give additional grants for other development and education and health care.

Japan's Liberal Democratic Party is locked in a tug of war between rival factions over whether to call a double election for the upper and lower houses of the Diet (Parliament) in June, a crucial decision which could decide the political fate of the Prime Minister, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone.

A final decision has yet to be made, but it now appears Mr Nakasone has gathered enough support within the party, albeit grudgingly given, to avoid a dual test.

Considering the impact Mr Nakasone has had since arriving on stage last November on Japan's image in Washington, where he has been applauded for strong views on defence and Japan's global obligations, the suggestion that he could just as suddenly depart should give pause. Parallels with Mrs Thatcher's situation in Britain are being noted.

Mr Nakasone has publicly maintained he has no plans to

Election debate in Japan

From Richard Hanson, Tokyo

Tanaka backs down on double poll demand

Within the Tanaka faction, however, opposition is strong. There is talk of Tanaka faction members resigning party posts if an election is put off.

A guilty verdict would most likely signal Mr Tanaka's political decline and probably cost him his position as faction leader. Mr Tanaka remains a Diet member, having won elections in spite of the trial. He resigned officially from the Liberal Democratic Party in 1976, when charges were first brought, but he still controls the biggest personal faction within the party, which is dominated by such groupings.

The Tanaka faction was largely responsible for Mr Nakasone's victory last autumn, and its members hold a great number of key positions in the Nakasone Cabinet and party power structure. When it was inaugurated, the press dubbed it the "Tanaka-sone" Government.

On the other hand, Mr

Nakasone has much to lose by going to the country at this stage. Firstly, dissolution of the Diet would put him in an awkward position at the forthcoming summit meeting in Williamsburg. A decision would have to be taken before the summit.

There is also the serious problem of how the party would fare in a general election at this time, and how one would then apportion blame or reward to Mr Nakasone personally.

Despite generally encouraging results in two recent rounds of local elections, the Liberal Democrats would probably lose some seats. Two years ago, during the first dual election, the party won Handily (it now controls 284 out of 511 seats), but largely because of sympathy votes after the sudden death of Mr Masayoshi Ohira, the Prime Minister.

Mr Nakasone is not obliged to call an election until about June, 1984.

Mitterrand visit to China opens with Zhao lecture

From David Bonavia, Peking

Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, lectured President Mitterrand of France last night on the need to secure withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia, and Soviet forces from Afghanistan.

Replying, Mitterrand said it was also France's policy to secure a withdrawal of foreign forces from Cambodia, so that free elections could be held to determine the country's future.

The exchange took place in speeches at a banquet last night to welcome the French leader, who is on a state visit. It was understood that Mitterrand's reply to Mr Zhao's speech was improvised.

France is expected to use the President's visit to discuss the sale of Mirage jet aircraft to China, but only in reasonably large quantities. The French do not want to have their advanced planes sold in small numbers for the Chinese to copy.

Another topic of the Sino-French talks is expected to be

the nuclear power plant to be built in the southern province of Guangdong, adjacent to Hongkong. France can supply the reactor, while Britain will sell the generating equipment.

China's disagreements with France over global strategy have been softened since President Pompidou's visit in 1973. Peking is now interested in improving relations with the Soviet Union, with which France has tried to establish a "special relationship" since the de Gaulle period.

France's relations with China have been less "special" over the past decade, although the two countries share a determination to maintain individual nuclear deterrents. France's opposition to American domination of West Europe is mirrored in China's less cordial attitude towards the United States because of the Taiwan problem.

China is annoyed by France's policy of giving aid to Vietnam.

Cheysson angers Pretoria

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Relations between France and South Africa have taken a sharp dip because of comments made by M Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, when he opened a United Nations conference on the future of Namibia (South-west Africa) in Paris last week.

France-South African relations had already been soured by the Mitterrand Government's decision to instruct French sporting federations to abstain from all sporting contacts with South Africa.

Mr R. F. Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, disclosed on Monday that he had personally advised Dr Willie van Niekerk, his Government's Administrator-General in Namibia, to boycott the presentation of a prize to M Cheysson for promoting international understanding in Africa.

The prize was to have been received by M François Marcel Plaisant, the French Ambassador to South Africa, during a ceremony last weekend marking the centenary of the founding of the port of Luderitz on the Namibian coast.

The prize, a wooden statuette of a Nama woman holding a dove, was awarded to M Cheysson by the Luderitzbucht Stiftung (the Luderitz Bay Foundation) in recognition of his role as the architect of the EEC's Lomé Convention in the days when he was a European Commissioner.

M Plaisant's speech accepting the prize had to be deleted at the last minute from the Luderitz centenary programme, because of the refusal of Dr van Niekerk and other South African dignitaries to share a platform with him, and it was eventually handed over in a separate ceremony in a local church.

TV 'spy' in S African police cells

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

Closed-circuit television is to be installed in the detention cells at John Vorster Square, the Johannesburg headquarters of the South African security police, so as to enhance themselves or committing suicide, Mr Louis Le Grange, the Minister of Law and Order, has announced.

He told the House of Assembly in Cape Town last night that the Government planned to increase the authorized establishment of the South African police from 44,000 to about 68,000 men in a few years if the money to finance this expansion were available.

The television monitoring will apply to prisoners held under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act. There are understood to be slightly fewer than 30 such prisoners at present though these do not include those held by the "independent" Ciskei tribal homeland, which has periodically imprisoned large numbers of black trade unionists.

Section 29 provides for people suspected of committing, or having knowledge of, security offences to be arrested without warrant and held for interrogation without charge or access to legal aid for as long as the Commissioner of Police deems necessary.

The monitoring will be done round the clock, with women police officers watching women detainees and policemen watching the men. This will mean that the lights in the cells can never be switched off.

Mrs Helen Suzman, the opposition Progressive Federal Party's spokesman on police affairs, said the 24-hour monitoring would be just another hardship for detainees to endure.

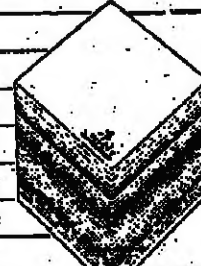
More than 30 people have died during the past 20 years while in security police custody.

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THE ARTS

Television Playing to the stalls

Rupert Deen receives the visitors from First Tuesday (Yorkshire) at his levee - or rather, lavie - one toe coyly pointing at the camera, hairy chest rising from the foam, and a copy of *The Sporting Life* temporarily lowered to permit one-way communication. First to his servant Harry ("Get me a Bloody Mary, lots of vodka, not too much tomato juice") then via his cordless phone ("Darling! And how are you?") and then to us. "Life gets so terribly crowded on the phone. Takes me all morning. I do half an hour's work in the morning, and half an hour in the afternoon, then bath and dress for dinner - it's really quite hectic."

Graciously allowing us to follow him on this exhausting round, he elaborates further. "My life is geared round people looking after me. Once you've trained them people are quite good. Dear old Harry, 55 and hasn't been trained properly yet. But he's basically quite bright." The real problem, he complains, is his hairdresser, is fitting everything in, what with ski-ing and fortnights in Musique and keeping an eye on his race-horses.

Out on a shoot he waxes philosophical. "I've told you before, Harry, pheasants are bred to be shot and they enjoy it. Labradors are bred to retrieve and they enjoy it. Wehmen are bred to dig coal, and the working classes are bred to look after gentlemen like myself." There has been a certain amount of nonsense put about by the unions (that the working classes have rights) and it is of course all wrong that they should have the vote (and even more so that women should have such a manifestly unsuitable thing), but these little problems will pass. Next stop a football match, with Rupert smiling benignly down on the crowd.

Wherever he is, Rupert is in his element. He scrambles gaily into a silk turban and fustian tights for a party ("I've got beautiful legs actually," with a flick of his feather boa) and he addresses Harry and the cook below stairs in Scrooge-like tones. Harry's theory is that his mother dropped him on his head, but he says it without venom.

Did you, gentle viewer, feel venomous? If not, why not? "I think you're filming me because I'm honest and don't give hypocritical answers," says Rupert, forgetting for a moment to play to the gallery. But who wants an actor who plays to the front row of the stalls? Rupert is to be enjoyed at the Fortune Theatre, for his liberated and liberating preposterousness.

The World About Us (BBC 2) presented a two-year-old French film about the Afghan freedom-fighters in the Panjshir Valley. Simon Winchester's travelogues commentary did not detract from the stirring pathos of clumsily-shot footage of freshly devastated villages and children whose hands and feet had been blown off by Soviet anti-personnel mines.

Michael Church



Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet open their Covent Garden season tomorrow with a newly-appointed Company Choreographer, David Bintley (left). It looks as if there will be changes: Bintley's next three ballets for the company are all to commissioned scores. Interview by John Percival

Making the music all his own

Grey trunks worn over black leggings, with a matching grey sweater adorned by a cheerfully young-looking portrait of Beethoven, are not exactly the gear you expect to see in the anteroom of the Royal Box at Covent Garden. But David Bintley had come straight from conducting a rehearsal of one of his ballets and had to work afterwards on another, and there are not many quiet corners where you can talk uninterrupted in the Opera House in the middle of the day when opera and ballet companies are both in residence.

Bintley has just been given the official title of Company Choreographer to Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet. Will it make much difference? "Not a lot, because I suppose that's really what I was already doing. But it does mean that I shall have more time because I won't have to dance so much, although I shall still do my Widow Simone and things like that. So over the next year I shall be making three new works for the Royal Ballet, and after that maybe I can accept an invitation to work with a company abroad."

"And all three of the ballets for next season will have commissioned scores. That's a tremendous risk, because I probably won't hear the finished score of the first one until about a fortnight before the premiere, and I don't yet have any idea of how the next one will work out. But I find it exciting to work with composers like Panufnik, which I did before, and Gordon Crosse, and now with two young composers who I think are going to be really good."

"The first ballet is for Sadler's

Wells in September. That has music by Aubrey Meyer, who is a freelance viola player. How I found him was that he rang me up, then arrived at my house in a temper with a bout of flu, about 11.30 one night having played in a concert at the Festival Hall. I thought anyone as mad as that has to have something."

"We had been discussing a very ambitious project and decided to defer it for a time. Then this opportunity came up and he will have had only six months to write it from start to finish. It's an abstract theme, so it was not possible to describe exactly, but we have talked about it a lot and worked out a structure. It will last from 25 to 28 minutes (we gave him a little latitude because he gets carried away) and I am using nine dancers, five women and four men, all young and very good dancers."

"The idea is to show what it feels like to dance - how I feel when I am dancing. Perhaps it looks horrible, but it feels wonderful, and I want to show what how it feels should look like. We had a title for it, but unfortunately it's been used before, years ago by Roland Petit - *Ballabile*. So we shall have to find something else, but that expresses exactly what the work is meant to be: in a dancing manner."

"Then in December I am doing another ballet for the company here at Covent Garden. There is a seven-minute overture which Benjamin Britten wrote. Besides all the existing music has been used. When I see *Night Moves*, for instance, that to me is what the music is about - but

abstract treatment, but based on the idea of a work of art progressing from the raw material to the finished product, with the muses as the various states that help it on its way."

"I had the thought of how earlier ballets like *Meadow of Proverbs* and *Night Moves* both had begun with music that I had known for years and never thought much about. Then one Saturday afternoon I sat down and listened to it, and at the end of the afternoon I had the complete ballet in my head. But after that came weeks and months of counting out the music and rehearsing and changing until in the end there was the finished work."

"The idea is that Victor Pasmore should do the decor for *Young Apollo*. The earlier work will have designs by Terry Bartlett, very simple: for both him and me it is a complete break from the complexity of *The Swan of Tuonela*."

"The third ballet is planned for about this time next year, again for the Sadler's Wells company. That one will have music by Peter McGowan, who is a violinist in our own orchestra. It has a plot, a kind of black comedy, but I'm going to keep it secret for the moment because I don't want anyone else to jump in and steal it. But it's a small work, all about a family."

"I do think it is important to have music written for ballet. How marvelous it must have been for Nijinsky to have Stravinsky write *Sacre* for him. Besides, all the existing music has been used. When I see *Night Moves*, for instance, that to me is what the music is about - but

every choreographer who ever lived must have used that piece by Britten, so I have to tell myself no, the music isn't yours, it's also Ashton's and Cranko's or whoever."

"With my new composers, I've made them promise not to give the music to anyone else. I'll rework them if necessary, but I want them to be mine. And I don't want to work with the same designers that everyone else uses. Sonnabend and Georgiadis are already associated with MacMillan and others. There are thousands of young designers not being employed, and some of them very good. I want to find them."

"It's a risk, of course. To do *Swan of Tuonela* was a risk for my first three-act ballet. It would have been much safer to choose some bits by a nineteenth-century composer, and have them orchestrated, with a simple plot and lots of *pas de deux*. Then I would probably have had something I could put on all over the place for the next 20 years. But I wanted to do something different."

"What about his latest performing role, in Jonathan Burrows's *The Winter Play*, created last month on tour: had he enjoyed that? "Yes - of course it's only a little cameo, and I wish I could be more involved; come back at the end perhaps. But it's the first role anyone has made for me for a time, and I enjoy it even though it means spending hours doing that make-up for about two minutes on stage. But what I really like is to be the one who sits in front and gives the orders." He grins disarmingly as he reaches for his dance bag to go to his next rehearsal, but the confession has the ring of truth.

Rock

Ecstatic message

Little Steven and the Disciples of Soul
Hammersmith Palais

On the evidence of his second London concert in less than a year, one can say without fear of contradiction that Little Steven now leads the second most exciting rock 'n' roll band currently active. This is not bad going since, in the guise of his better-known alter ego, Miami Steve Van Zandt, he also plays guitar in the very best band.

The Disciples of Soul are a fine and necessary complement to Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band, in whose ranks Van Zandt earns his regular living and whose success has enabled him, as a sideline, to pursue his personal dream: the Platonic ideal of the marriage of white rock with black soul of the middle 1960s.

Since last summer, when they recorded their first (and, so far, only) album, the Disciples of Soul have become a remarkably exhilarating outfit, particularly well attuned to the demands of live performance. Unlike most of today's bands, they are able to add the indefinable extra dimension which brings a concert to life, making it more than simply a rehearsal of their recorded works.

Some of this has to do with the warmth and humour of Van Zandt's personality, which has always been a delightful counterbalance to Springsteen's

intensity; it is also attributable to the zest with which the task is approached, to the artfulness of the arrangements and to the professional precision of the collective musicianship. This is a band which can be raucous without also being messy, whose four-piece horn section can strip the paint from the walls with its heat yet never descend to mere callisthenics, whose singer can remind one of Dylan, Jagger and Smokey Robinson yet remain firmly his own man.

Van Zandt has, in fact, developed into a very formidable singer indeed. Wisely, he never attempts to sustain Springsteen's emotional intensity, but the power with which he delivered the trilogy of "I Played the Fool", "This Time it's for Real" and "I Don't Want to Go Home" was irresistible.

New touches had been added since last year, notably the female oboist who supplied a fresh texture to the guitar-based drive of "Under the Gun" and whose presence made the instrumental version of "Caravan" sound like a meeting between the Mar-Keys, Jimi Hendrix and Sandy Nelson at an early Roxy Music rehearsal; but the ecstatic message was the same, confirming a growing conviction that the Disciples of Soul's album, *Men Without Women*, is a genuine minor classic.

Richard Williams

London debuts

Instant involvement

Andor Totth was previously known to London audiences as leader of the New Hungarian Quartet, who did a Bartók cycle at the Queen Elizabeth Hall some years ago. The warm, sweeping lines of the Appassionata movement of Schumann's Sonata Op. 105 showed that his long experience had won him a capacity for instant involvement, and the subtle inflexions of his rich tone emphasized the structure of individual phrases and of the whole.

Bartók's Sonata No. 1 is a severe test for both players, the more so as each instrument goes its own way. The expected authority of Mr Totth's performance was fully matched by that of his partner, Jean, the interpretation's relaxation and naturalness reminding one of some of the composer's own recordings. Everything was comprehended and its meaning rendered clearly. The calm beauty of the Adagio was unforgettable, as was the fierce yet entirely poised intensity of the finale.

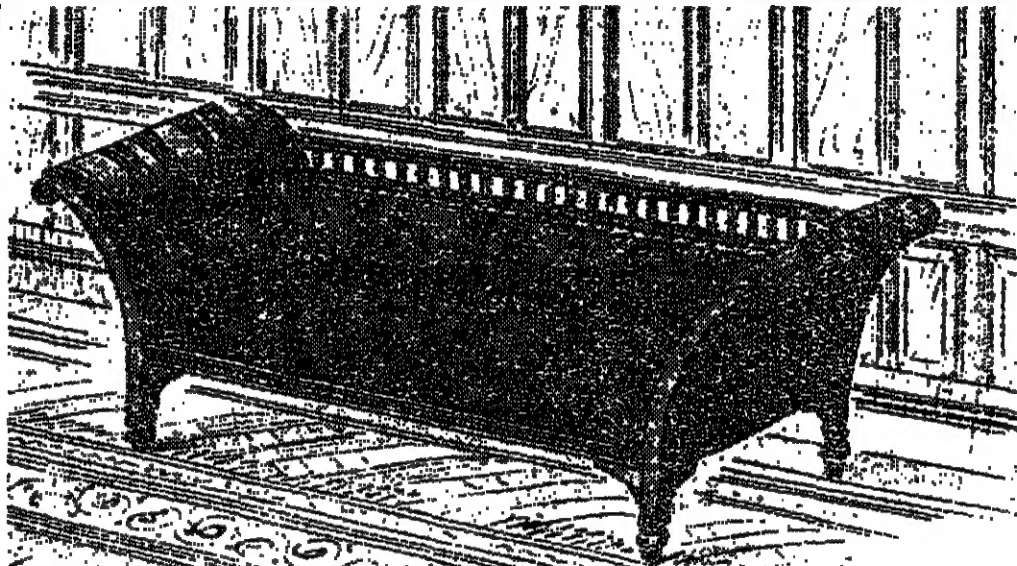
Something of a surprise was Saint-Saëns's Sonata No. 1, this being shown as a work of greater substance than might be supposed. Mr Totth's violin tone had as much power as in Bartók's Sonata or Bach's Chaconne, but now it took on an urbanity that was entirely apt for Saint-Saëns. The Allegretto had a charming playfulness and the concluding moto perpetuo was faultless. It is a pity that Adeline

Oprean, first prize-winner of last year's Carl Flesch International Violin Competition, did not begin her debut recital as well as she ended it. Her last piece was Enescu's enchanting Sonata No. 3 of 1926, subtitled "In Rumanian Gypsy Style" and this was played as to the manner born. Enescu's three movements have a marvellous piquancy, and make an extraordinarily varied use of material that is almost rigidly defined, or limited, stylistically.

The elaborate, constantly varied ornamentation sounded at once authentic and wayward, the folksy rubato was exactly right, and all this contrasted sharply with what had happened earlier. In Beethoven's Sonata, Op. 30 No. 3, and Brahms's Op. 108 Miss Oprean's tone was small, seemingly capable of little diversity, and in the former work especially she tended to be drowned by the rather too enthusiastic piano playing of her brother Justin. The readings were sober and conscientious, yet without any sense of Beethovenian or Brahmsian style.

Max Harrison

Peter Ustinov's *Beethoven's Tenth*, first staged at the Birmingham Rep in March, is to open at the Vaudeville Theatre on May 19 for a 12-week season, with previews from May 17. Ustinov himself plays Ludwig, his first appearance on the London stage for 10 years.



Waterhouse's sketch for a sofa in the reception room of Manchester Town Hall

Alfred Waterhouse
Heinz

In architecture, as in many other arts, the ability to do and the ability to sell what you do are not necessarily found hand-in-hand. Among the major Victorian architects, Alfred Waterhouse was noted for his great practical skill in planning, his fearless exploration of the more violently and durably coloured surface materials, and perhaps even more, for his skill in presenting his wildest projects in such a way that clients were bowed over and proceeded happily to pay for their realization.

If Waterhouse seldom missed a commission he seriously went in for (the Royal Courts of Justice in London were a rare exception) this was generally supposed to be the result of his superior skills as a draughtsman - an imaginative draughtsman, some unkindly said - and he was often accused of taking unfair advantage of his gifts as a painter to minimize the draw-

Galleries

backs of his designs and dramatize their advantages. Unlike most of his contemporaries, he never used a professional expert to draw his perspectives, but nearly always did them himself, and, if they were sketched by someone else in his office, he always finished and applied the colour (very important, that).

This makes the show devoted to him at the RIBA's Heinz Gallery in Portman Square (until May 28) peculiarly satisfying. For once we do not have to reconstruct laboriously the effect of the buildings from wispy blueprints and faded photographs. To begin with, any Londoner and most visitors must be familiar at least with the Natural History Museum's grandly variegated terracotta facade, the shocking puce of the Prudential in Holborn, the fanciful turrets of the National Liberal Club on the Embankment and the religious factory effect created by King's Weigh House Chapel in darkest Mayfair. And, if the visitor has not had these sometimes slightly dubious pleasures, here on show are Waterhouse's own forceful

watercolours, which are just as good if not better.

The show also includes a number of the watercolours he did on his travels, for fun or for information. And very capable they are. It also has examples of his actual furniture, his church fittings and even some of the china he designed to help unify the effect of his masterly Manchester Town Hall, where everything possible, down to the least detail, was created by him. There are also ground plans which show his grasp of the less glamorous aspects of architectural design, notebooks and accounts, and a mass of detail on the less accessible Prudential buildings outside London (how appropriate that the Pru should be subsidizing this exhibition) and the now sadly destroyed Eaton Hall. Even with our raised tolerance to the more ruthless side of Victorian architecture, it is hard to be sure if encountering Waterhouse is altogether a pleasant experience, but it is certainly like nothing else.

John Russell Taylor

Concerts

Carter's playful conflict brilliantly rendered

Fires of London
Symphony Space,
New York

Britain Salutes New York has brought to this artistically overfurnished city a plethora of events, in art, music, poetry, film and dance. Yet few if any could be more satisfying than the three concerts by the Fires of London in Symphony Space. The concerts brought out the New York musical intelligentsia in force (including Aaron Copland and Leonard Bern-

stein), and demonstrated in a bravura way the superb skills of the Maxwell Davies and those of his "house" artists.

The performances included examples from five of Davies's musical worlds - those of dance (*Vesali Icons*), of monodrama (*Eight Songs for a Mad King* and *Miss Donnithorne's Maggot*), of chamber opera (*Le Jongleur de Notre Dame*), of pure music (*Image, Reflection, Shadow*), and of orchestration (*Kinoko's his Fantasy* and *Renaissance Scottish Dances*). *Image* and *Jongleur* were United States premieres.

The only work not by Davies programmed was Elliott Carter's *Triple Duo*, commissioned for the Fires by the BBC and here receiving its world premiere. This 25-minute piece, in the composer's spikily complex vein, organizes the playing groups as three duos (piano/percussion, violin/cello, flute/clarinet) and sets them to elucidate their own musics and to interact with those of the other duos.

The piece has about it a sustained playfulness, but one ever allied to Carter's underlying and often explicit sense of conflict. Thus the duos gather

force and vitality through a long opening section of jousting interplay and exposition, reach a peak in a short period of relaxation and carry forward through a scherzo to a final *allegro fantastico*, where themes hurle around the duos. This last section, though not a fugue stretto, has its summational power, and brings to a conclusive close what has been extrapolated before. The *Triple Duo* was brilliantly contrasted, immediately after the intermission, to Davies's *Image, Reflection, Shadow*, a more introspective and meditative

exploration of the interaction of the instruments, with the percussion replaced by the dominant and dusky sound of the cimbalom. The two pieces were framed by the orchestrations of earlier music.

All three concerts were superbly performed by the Fires and their vocal and dance consorts. The level of playing never sagged. It constituted the most enriching and diversified music-making I have heard all winter.

Patrick J. Smith

Murray Perahia
Festival Hall

Murray Perahia has few rivals as an exponent of the piano beautiful, and to move from Brendel's Beethoven to his on Monday was to exchange an X-ray artist for the most flattering of portrait photographers, one who knows exactly how to sit and light his subjects to best advantage. Where Brendel

seems to let one hear the music being composed, Perahia defines one to believe that it ever had anything to do with things so mundane and physical as ink and paper.

The difference was striking in the slow movement of the D major Sonata, Op. 10 No. 3. Brendel's search replaced by a dream vision sustained at the same even, elevated tone throughout and sung with the smoothest of diminuendos.

Then, in the finale, which

Brendel fills with jerky insect life, Perahia kept up a classic elegance that became ever more refined until the last bars, were swept into one unbroken sheet of "mother-of-pearl." His "one concession" to Beethoven's awkwardness, a mounted trot through the Minuet's trio, was out of place in such a context.

With Perahia all music aspires to the condition of Schubert, and it was with a major work by Schubert that he ended each half of this recital.

First came the second set of Impromptus, with the most perfect wedding-cake decoration in the variations and a quite incorporeal brilliance in the last piece. Later there was the "Wanderer" Fantasy, delivered from commanding strength in the bass, which was firm and clear, never clagorous. The songful episodes Perahia took as a gift to his rounded cantabile style; more surprising but entirely appropriate was the way he took his

wanderer into a ballroom of glittering sophistication for the middle movements, thence to emerge with proud dignity for the finale.

This was admirable, but the most complete match of pianist and music had come before-hand in Mendelssohn's *Variations Serieuses*, done as an essay in how to be at once serious minded and unfailingly, winningly, pretty.

Paul Griffiths

Rigby/Daniel/
Bosworth
Purcell Room

Fast-fledged from the Royal Academy and National Opera Studio, Jean Rigby has been busy this season at both London's opera houses, and on Monday made use of a night off from *The Gambler* to give a recital. Her deep-bloomed mezzo-

soprano is a constant and increasing pleasure to listen to, well-groomed, securely integrated and steadily broadening in expressive mobility. The burgeoning character within was at its most delightfully apparent in Debussy's three *Chansons de Bilitis*, the budding, blooming and withering of erotic love discovered in lightly weighed words, gently blended timbres and a dark, numb chest voice.

Thoughtfully paced through the melodic declamation of

Respighi's *Il Tramonto*, the supple inflexions of her voice compelled attention throughout the work's long narrative. Where, in three of Richard Strauss's "night" songs, the span was shorter, and the verbal colours were muted into shades of grey, the voice needed a little sharper definition and closer focus.

It could have been helped by the nudging of a taster, more brightly detailed piano accompaniment than Nicholas Bosworth was able to provide.

But Miss Rigby as yet seems happier in songs like "All mein Gedanken", or her delightful English and Spanish encores, where the music's own movement draws out the energy of line, as it were, over the charcoal tone of her voice.

Miss Rigby shared the evening with the obdurate Nicholas Daniel. Together they performed a refreshingly muscular recital in a sound of Narcissus's refracted and reflected image.

Hilary Finch

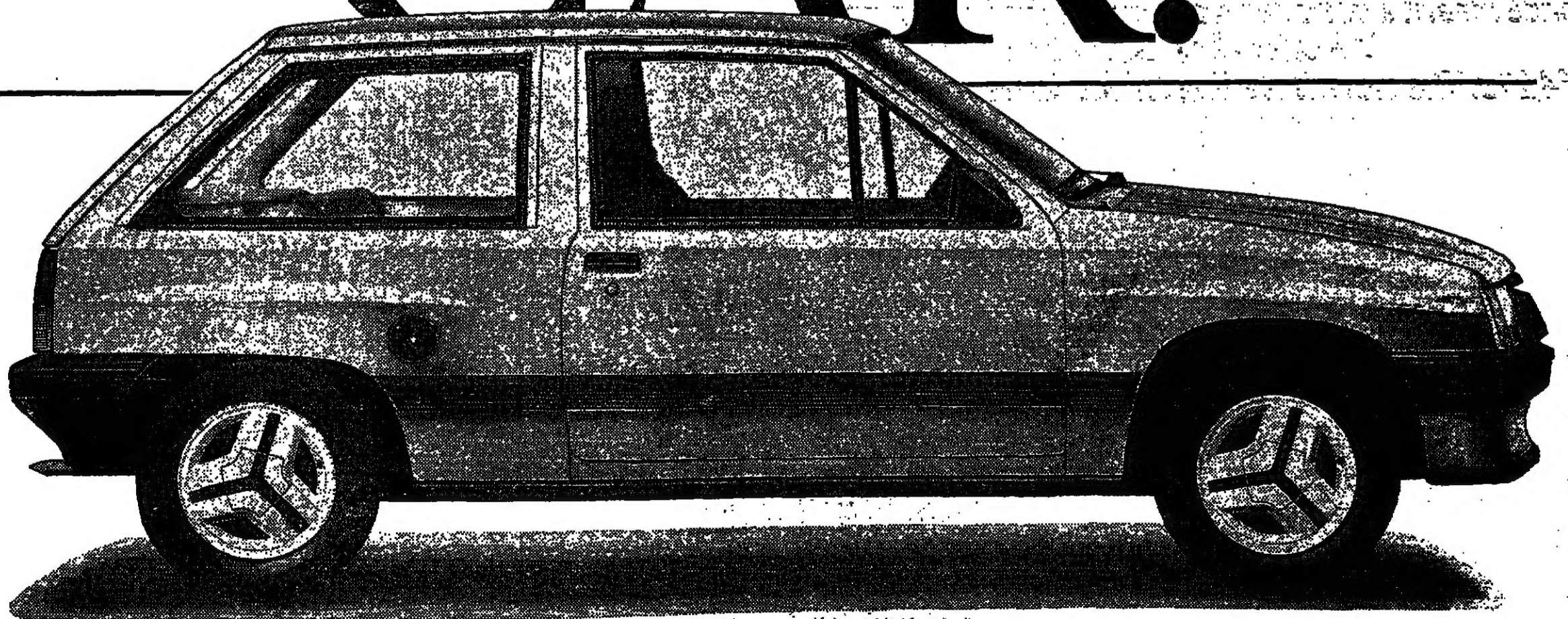
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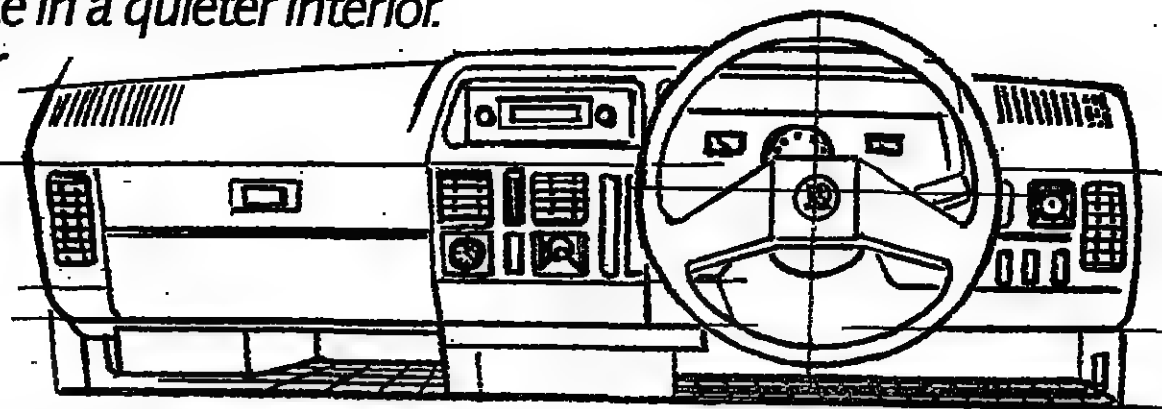


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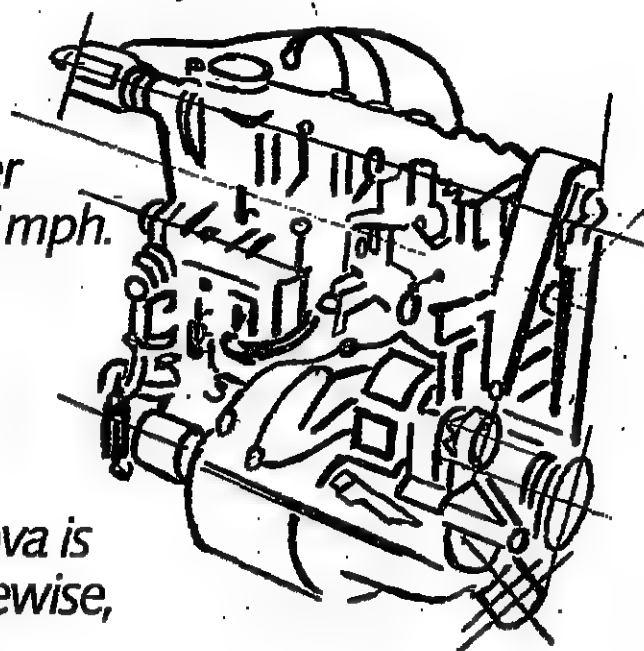
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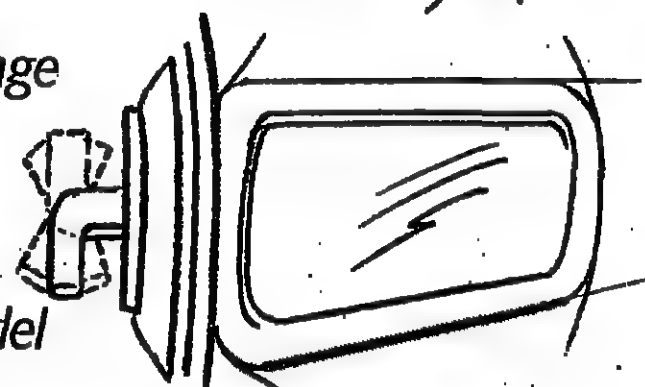
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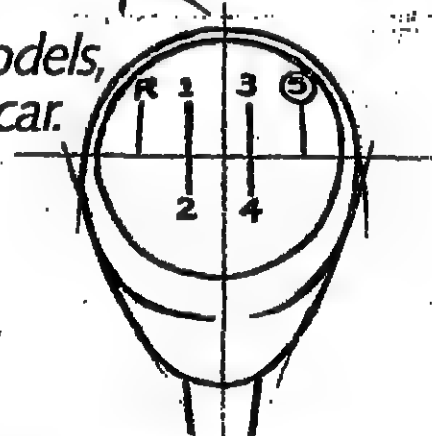
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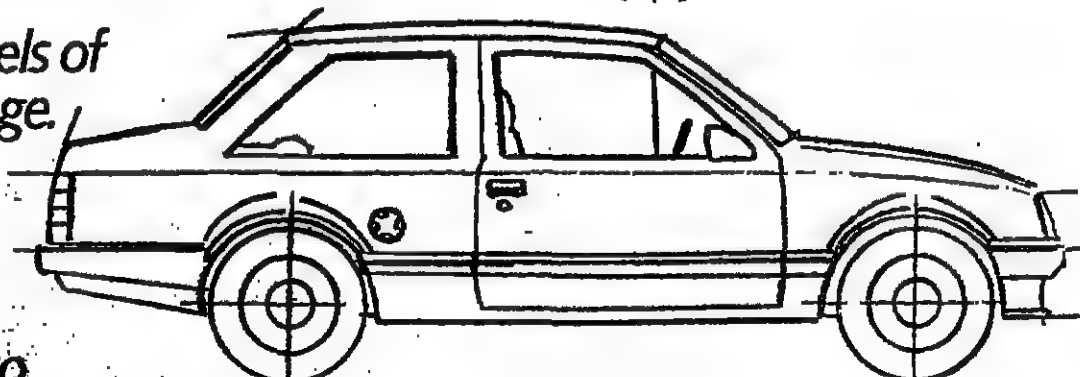
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BACKED BY THE WORLDWIDE RESOURCES OF GENERAL MOTORS

Is drug abuse in Britain getting out of hand?
In the concluding article on heroin and its victims, Caroline Moorehead reports on the alarming increase in drug-taking and efforts to deal with the underlying causes of addiction

The mind behind the needle

When Dr John Strang took over the regional drug dependence unit in Manchester in February last year, there were 50 problem drug users on his books. Since then, nearly 1,000 cases have been referred to him, 200 since January alone.

Not far away, in a town in the North-east with a population of 150,000, a research worker in drug addiction has recently uncovered 150 regular users of heroin: only 30 had previously been known. According to the Drug Indicators Group set up two years ago to investigate national patterns of drug taking, there are some 2,000 heroin addicts in the London boroughs of Camden and Islington alone.

Nationally, the figure has probably reached 30,000, having doubled in the past four years. One doctor referred to the new findings as a Pandora's box. Another spoke of an epidemic.

Today's users of hard drugs are no longer confined to Piccadilly Circus: the habit is spreading, from cities to major towns and from there to smaller towns. "We're catching up with London," explained one regional researcher, "just as Britain is now catching up with Europe and Europe with America."

Drug users now include school-children, middle-aged professional people and many more women than before. City Roads, a short-term residential centre in London, reports that for the first time it is picking up 16-year-olds who have been on heroin for a year or more.

At the same time, drug use is changing. Apart from the many thousands known to be addicted to barbiturates and amphetamines, there is a growing dependence on minor tranquillizers (the benzodiazepines, like Valium, Librium and Mogadon) and an increasing number of the "cross-addicted", those who take whatever they can get hold of. (And who, now that heroin is cheap and available, take heroin).

Faced with figures like these, the Government appears to be emerging from more than 10 years' apparent inertia on the subject of drugs, during which time statutory services for addicts have not grown, and some voluntary services, already operating on a shoestring, have been cut.

Shortly before Christmas a report on drug treatment and rehabilitation appeared which highlighted deficiencies in the system. In January the DHSS, prodded by Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services (who gave his maiden speech on the subject of drugs) announced draft proposals to spend £6m over three years on "new initiatives for drug misusers". The sum is meant to be no more than an interim and special payment; as David Turner, of the Standing Conference on Drug Addiction, put it: "If the Government were really offering adequate money to develop appropriate services, the figure would have to be nearer to £40m." But since there is some money, where should it be going?

In 1926 the Rolleston Committee, appointed to examine the supply of drugs to addicts, concluded that addiction was rare and confined chiefly to people having access to drugs for professional reasons. The "British system" was born, whereby addicts were "managed" by the prescription of maintenance doses. At the same time was born an understanding that addiction was an expression of mental

disorder rather than a form of criminal behaviour.

It was not until the mid 1960s, when heroin addiction appeared suddenly to be rising (from 68 addicts in 1959 to 342 in 1964) and some doctors were found to have been over-prescribing, that the Brain Committee recommended establishing treatment centres in national health hospitals which, alone, were to be licensed to prescribe heroin or cocaine.

At about the same time, the Advisory Committee on Drug Dependence, precursor of the present Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs, recommended setting up hostels for homeless addicts, or for those who had recently come off drugs.

And there, officially, the matter has largely rested. Some 40 hospital-based treatment units, of which perhaps a third were in London, were set up in NHS hospitals, with a further 80 to 100 hospitals where drug addiction was at least partly catered for.

Professor Philip Seager of the Northern General Hospital in Sheffield, has 50 addicts on his books. "But we can only manage one or two inpatients. The problem is to persuade people that addicts need resources, when there are so many other needy groups, like geriatrics," he says.

The fact that so many clinics were situated down side alleys, in basements, Portacabins and disused store-rooms was an indication of how little favour they found.

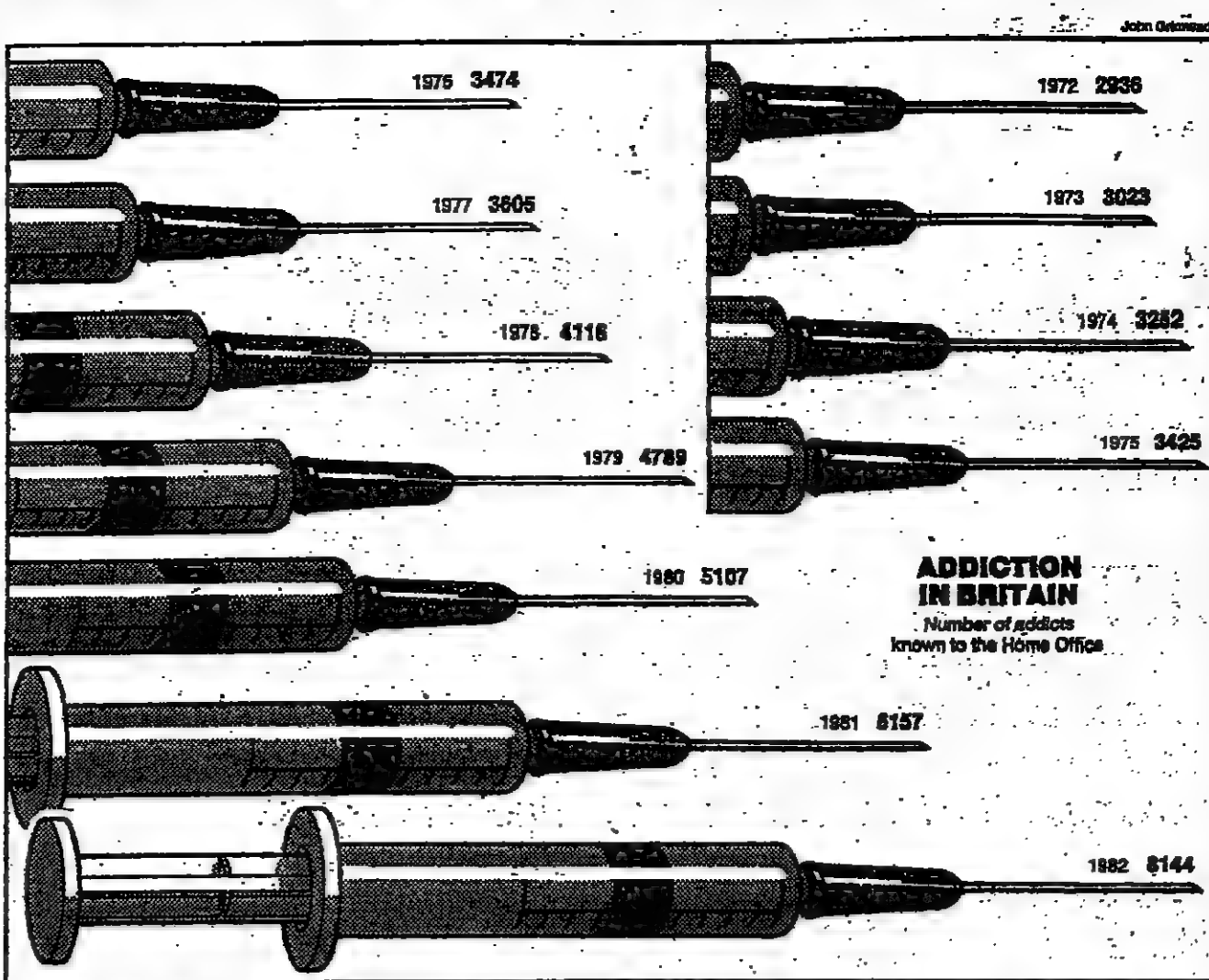
In the early days, addicts referred to these units were merely prescribed the drugs they were dependent upon, in the same form they were used to taking. By 1971 doctors were moving towards synthetic opioids, like methadone, believed to be less addictive. A philosophy was taking shape: addicts should be encouraged to withdraw from the habit. If that seemed impossible, they should be helped, "maintained" on drugs for as long as necessary.

By the mid 1970s, addiction to heroin and other opioids seemed more or less stable, but that to other drugs was apparently growing. Treatment units were offering only methadone (except to some heroin addicts) administered orally (with a few exceptions, those deemed addicted to the drug and to the needle). But doctors everywhere began to have doubts.

Was it right to prescribe drugs at all? Was addiction really a medical problem? Were other components - homelessness, breakdown of families, unemployment - not more important? Was the number of people coming off drugs so low (as few as one in five) because the real issues were never being confronted? Treatment units now began to offer therapy, sometimes making the methadone dependent on attendance at weekly sessions and refusing all "treatment" not based on the assumption that total withdrawal was the ultimate goal.

The voluntary sector, which had entered the field of drug misuse in a patchy way in the early 1960s, had long been concerned with the wider problems. Better than anyone, directors of voluntary schemes knew that the crisis that drove an addict to seek help was born not only of a breakdown in health but also from desperate, solitary homelessness, or repeated trouble with the law.

Today, voluntary organizations offer two thirds of all residential beds for



Kicking the habit: the addict's story

John is 26 and a part-time draughtsman in a small architect's office. He lives in Wimbledon with his parents and three younger brothers; his father owns and runs a small ball bearings factory.

"I was very shy when I was a teenager. I hated parties. I didn't get on with girls. Then I found that a bit of dope, a couple of drinks, made all the difference."

"It was two years before I got on to heroin. I used to buy it from friends and from dealers, mostly with money I earned. I would have stolen - except then I would have had to admit that I was an addict."

"When I was taking a lot, I tried to keep away from my family. I came in late, left early. I took odd jobs, then left before I could be sacked. Only when I was actually taking drugs did I feel the way I wanted to feel: kind, considerate, honest."

"One day I was at a party and feeling terrible when a friend told me about Narcotics Anonymous. I went along to a meeting and through someone, there joined a treatment centre. That was eight months ago. I haven't had a high since then."

"I told my parents what I had been doing only after I started treatment. They were wonderful, very relieved that they could understand why I had been behaving so strangely."

"Now I go to an NA meeting at least five times a week. I listen to what the others say and can identify with them. No one laughs. I need the reminder: I see people walking in for the first time and remember how sick and desperate I used to feel. When I feel bad, I don't look for

drugs. I bring the bad feelings to meetings. It gives me hope."

Josephine is a tall, somewhat heavy girl with buzzed hair and very white skin. She is 22. Her father is a fashion designer. Her mother works for an export firm. She has one younger sister, still at school.

"When I was 13 I was sent to a private girl's day school in Queensway. After school, we used to hang around waiting for the kids to come out of Holland Park Comprehensive. They used to have marijuana, and coke, and sometimes acid."

"I was 15 when someone gave me heroin. Almost at once, I found that was the cheapest, fastest way of getting a buzz. I had a friend in a pub in the King's Road and he used to get it for me. In those days £2.50 was enough to get what I needed. When I didn't have the money I stole it from my father's pockets, or at parties, from people's bags."

"I didn't realize I was addicted until a friend pointed out that I had taken heroin every single day for a month. I was 17. Then my mother found out. She blamed the people I was with and sent me to stay with friends. I took enough with me to last until she allowed me back."

"I started work as a trainee librarian. I thought I had the heroin under control. I just took it when I felt awful, and then I felt good."

"When I was 18 I started to deal. Just to support my habit. I had to get more and more to have the same effect. My mother kicked me out."

"One morning I woke up

with hepatitis. That turned into glandular fever. I spent three days in a coma. After that I was always in and out of hospital. Each time I came out, I held out for a couple of weeks, then started on heroin again. I went back to dealing. I stole."

"Last autumn a doctor put me on to tranquillizers and anti-depressants. When I felt bad I drank cocaine linctus and then I realized that no day passed without at least one bottle of vodka. I tried to commit suicide. It was my fifth attempt. I have now been clean for six weeks. A private clinic has promised me a bed and I have just enough to pay for it from a small inheritance. I hope I don't have to wait long. I've got to hold on. This is my last chance."

Martin is a slight, soberly dressed man with short fair hair. He is 30 and lives alone in a terraced house in Chelsea. His father is a company director. A scholar at his public school, he read history before joining the Civil Service.

"When I was about 14 I started drinking with schoolfriends. At first it was just Friday and Saturday nights. Our boy got bold of some cannabis. Then we started using alcohol and marijuana indiscriminately. The ill-effects were part of the attraction."

"I was still at school when I tried LSD. In fact, we all experimented with whatever we could find. But the big drug was alcohol; getting drunk was acceptable not only to other boys but even to the housemaster who was perfectly prepared to tolerate the

occasional drinking binge among 16-year-olds."

"Then came pills, stolen by boys from their parents' medicine cabinets. When I went up to Cambridge, cocaine, opium and heroin all came quickly. I have always found that if you want any drug enough and if you have the money for it, then everything is available."

"What was insidious was the way in which my drug taking changed. At first it had been to do with having fun, enjoying myself, all of us having a good time together. Gradually I couldn't control what was happening. I started relying on being high as a way of coping with any difficult situation. And since getting high made me feel guilt and disgust with myself, I had to take more drugs to feel all right."

"By the time I left university I was completely obsessed. To secure a regular supply of drugs became the most important single thing in my life. To do so, I had to lead a double life, keep up appearances for my family and friends."

"I was one of the lucky ones. My family discovered what I was doing before the habit cost me my job. They persuaded me to go to a treatment centre."

"Actually coming off heroin is physically no worse than very bad flu. But I realize that for me the addiction has been a physical, mental and spiritual illness. I have now to deal with the fact that I have used drugs and drink for 15 years as an escape from growing up, and from the real world. In that respect, I am still today a 15-year-old schoolboy."

The ignorance and contempt that surrounds drug addiction may be changing. Irresponsible overprescriptions are giving way to caution; causes rather than symptoms are discussed, and counselling, rather than the ready prescription of "mood changers," is now being offered.

But this, says Steve Tippell of the Blenheim Project, is not enough. "We have, as a society, to get the drug problem into perspective. It can be dealt with. Some people drink; others become depressed. Drugs are only another way people choose to cope with life. Addiction needs specialist help, but it is not a contagious disease, and nor is it the slippery slope to the mortuary slab."

An overweight climber has no time to hang around on a mountain

The only way is up

Don Whillans, a wily old hand among active British mountaineers, has set off to spend his fiftieth birthday climbing the second highest peak in the peaks of the Baltoro region of the Himalayas for the eighth trip to the Himalayas for the former Salford plumber who for years has lingered in the top echelons of rock climbing and high-altitude mountaineering, a man noted for his sharp humour and unconventional approach, and now a sort of guru to younger climbers.

Whereas many mountaineers would be applying themselves to circuit training, dumb-bells or at least a foot-slog around their local park, Don Whillans rejected any such slavish preparations. He set out, as he did on previous Himalayan adventures, including two to Everest, some three stones overweight.

He has firm confidence that all will be right on the day. "I'm sure to lose two of them. It could be two-and-a-half, which will leave me just fine."

He has an accent as flat as the cap he often climbs in and his girth is set on a short, immensely strong frame.

His interest in mountains began when he was a schoolboy. Every weekend was spent exploring the dark moorland of the Peak District; soon he discovered his talent for climbing rocks. "I used to watch those chaps belaying with ropes and think to myself 'you fellows could hurt himself if he fell off.' When eventually he tried he found an immediate gift for the sport and a singular curiosity for finding harder, steeper and more holdless lines up the



Don Whillans: "The Himalayas are extremely dangerous"

gristly edges. It was not long before he progressed to the bigger cliffs of North Wales, the Lake District and Scotland. His partnership with Joe Brown, a fellow building-trade handyman, produced many of the most bold and significant climbs of post-war years.

"Some of those climbs stood the test of time. I don't often look at guide books now but I did notice that a short track at Burtage we discovered one day now has one of those obscure modern grades and it makes the lads cough a bit. If I lost a bit of weight I reckon I could still get up some of these hard routes. I don't feel any different but with two and a half stones extra you don't have long to hang around. Your fingers start to meen very quickly."

From short outcrops the logical development was to the Alps where Whillans and Chris Bonington made an early British attempt on the north face of the Eiger. That turned into a successful rescue of another British climber whose friend had been killed by a stonefall. His notable successes in the Alps included the Central Pillar of Eiger, the west face of the Dufour and the west face of the Blaise. He joined Bonington in the Himalayas on the first ascent of Annapurna I, which was a significant pioneering expedition using rope techniques on a huge Himalayan face. A close friend, Ian Clough, was killed in the closing minutes of that expedition.

"There's no two ways round it: the Himalayas are extremely dangerous - nature at its most powerful. Even the rivers you have to cross to get to the mountains are dangerous. People say it's safe if you obey the rules, but they are wrong. If you have plenty of experience and understand the place then there are so many unexpected unknown things that can happen. People call them freak conditions but they happen every few minutes."

It is not the challenge of a particular climb or the adrenalin of fear that attracts him to the mountains. "I go there because I enjoy the atmosphere. If I wake up on my fiftieth birthday with the Baltoro River crashing past that will be perfect. Joe Brown used to say I would never make 21, that I'd never make old bones. Here we both are, though, still cracking on at a respectable standard."

Ronald Faux

Selections from a camp garden of verses

Always willing to cash in on someone else's success, I have been pondering recently on the publicity given to the Penguin Book of Homosexual Verse and the instructive book called Camp by Mark Booth. Surely, I thought, there must be a common denominator. It came to me this morning in a flash. The Moreover Book of Camp Verse.

No sooner said than done. The Moreover Poetry Computer was woken from its recent slumber and put to work. In went all the great English poets, and a lot of odd ones, and in went Mr Booth's book. A bit of humming came from the computer, then a bit of tut-tutting, then finally the encouraging message: "Ready to go, sweetie!" The first attempts were

disappointing. The whole of Milton came out simply as: When I consider how my life is spent, I find that most of it has gone on rent.

Stevenson's poem starting: "There are fairies at the bottom of my garden" was rejected as being over the top already. W. H. Davies produced a small reaction...

What is this life if full of care, We cannot dance like Fred Astaire?

The computer helpfully appended this footnote: "I was going to make the last line 'We cannot dance like Lionel Blair' but Lionel doesn't quite scan properly, poor dear." Getting into his stride a bit, the computer came up with a longer version of Keats's works: My heart aches, and a drowsy numbness pains

MOREOVER MILES KINGDON

My sense, as though of late I had been drunk, It all comes back! That party out at Staines! That man dressed up like Cupid. What a hunk. Was it a vision or a waking dream? And what on earth am I doing here at Cheam?

Coleridge too seemed to appeal to the computer. When this shortened version of the "Rime of the Ancient Mariner" came out, I fancy I heard a chuckle.

It is an ancient mariner And he stoppeth one of three. "Oh, get lost, aged navy man - It's sailor boys for me!" He holds him with his skinny hand,

"There was a ship," quoth he. "Forget it!" said the wedding guest And joined the revelry.

William Allingham's long poem "The Fairies" seemed an obvious candidate, though again it came out shorter than I remember it, and not a great deal changed.

Up the Earls Court Station Down the Chyne Walk We daren't go a-cruising For fear of careless talk. Odd folk, gay folk, Trooping all together, Green jacket, red cap, And dressed all in leather.

What finally persuaded me that the computer might have a book in him was the rather with which he leaps upon Walter de

La Mare's "The Listeners" and turned it into a powerful yet somehow lyrical version of the original.

"Is there anybody there?" said the Traveller Knocking on the moonlit door; While he patted his hat in position And straightened his tie once.

But there was nobody there to answer, Or if there was, they were dead. And the Traveller stamped his tiny foot - "Well, for goodness sake!" he said.

Never the least stir made the listeners, Though they giggled beneath their breath And he fingered his invitation: "Is everyone in there dead?"

Well, tell them I came to the party. On the dot of nine, as it is said,

And he flounced away down the hallway, Tossing his furious head. They heard him call for a taxi, And give an address in Kew, And how they all howled with laughter

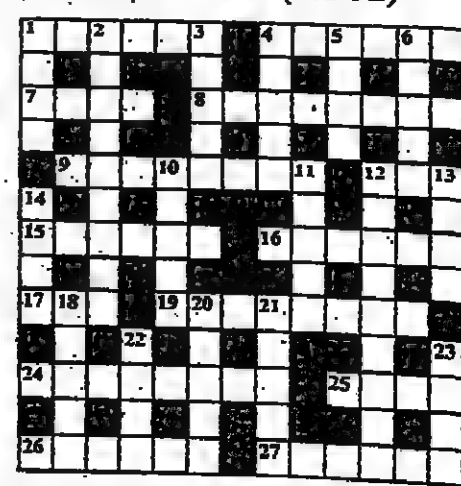
At the joke they had played on poor Hugh. Exhausted by this little masterpiece, the computer sank into silence, then briefly revived for this snatch of Lewis Carroll.

"You are old, Shirley Bassey," the young man said, "Though you still appeal to us guys."

And yet you incessantly go for high C. Do you think at your age it is wise?" I expected an answer to this question, but there came nothing except the sound of a far-off ovation and, from a slot beside the read-out, a huge bouquet of roses.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 52)

- ACROSS
1 Quicker (6)
4 Coal miner
7 Transfer (4)
8 Commonly (8)
9 Reality evasion (8)
12 Passes (3)
13 Hot pot stand (6)
16 Standing posture (6)
17 Government department (1,1,1)
19 Videotext service (8)
24 Boating events (8)
25 Idiot (4)
26 Lease payment (6)
27 Frothy (6)
DOWN
1 Truth (4)
2 Glancing blow (9)
3 Amass (3,2)
4 European capital (5)
5 Amphibian (4)
6 Female (3)
10 Warning (5)
11 Anthem (5)
12 Very unpleasant (9)
13 Not even (4)
14 Lamp (4)
15 Cornucopia (5)
16 Plum (7)
17 Stink (4)
18 Horde (2)
19 Lisp (3)
20 Praise (5)
21 Composition (5)
22 Skin lump (4)
23 Manoeuvre (4)



SOLUTION TO No 51
ACROSS: 1 Looah 5 Flag 8 Fizzy 9 Longbow 11 Enologist 13 Peon 15 Wine vault 18 Last 19 Crotchet 22 Martini 23 Siren 24 Clip 25 Nipper
DOWN: 2 Ouzel 3 Fay 4 Half sovereign 5 Font 6 Ambient 7 After 10 Want 12 Gone 14 Suit 15 Waupre 16 Plum 17 Stink 20 Horde 21 Lisp 23 Sop

WEDNESDAY PAGE

JOANNA LUMLEY'S DIARY

A trivial thought for the day

I have kept a diary only once before in my life: it was when I was eleven and at boarding school. For Christmas, my uncle had given me a very handsome little book, made of dark blue leather, with pages as thin and as blue as airmail paper. I don't suppose it had more than an inch a day to fill in. My friend Sarah had a fat, red five-year diary with a lock and key: she was already on her second year and I can still remember the quiet discipline of her at the end of the day, sitting up in bed, grunting as she filled page after page with her neat script. I, too, would keep a diary: the very words "my diary" seemed so self-important, like "my doctor" and "my lawyer", whose only aim in life was, surely, to guard my health and to attend to my affairs.



clinging on to a little wheel, peering through a little window and peering into a filthy mirror. Speak not of Lamborghini or Rolls Royces. The cars themselves are splendid but you always end up with a person having to drive it. Put a man on a horse and (provided he can ride) feast your eyes on manliness and mastery and sensitivity. His very height is awe-inspiring.

His arms are free to do things with trumpets and swords, for we all know that you steer a horse with your knees. I watched the Household Cavalry jingling and stamping through the park, each animal gleaming and each man more handsome than the last. Pressed against the windows of the Hyde Park Hotel, I saw them pass and my womanly heart was all a-tremble. It was not the shining armour that made the knight so irresistible: it was his caparisoned horse. I shall not be receiving letters on this subject, but I am prepared to admit that I look siller than most, slumped in my second-hand Spivmobile.

Attended the Gala evening of the Young London Ballet. Slightly mused up my vice-patronage entrance by coming through a side door at the Festival Hall and descending the stairs I was supposed to ascend, thereby nearly missing the pretty child with flowers who was to guide me to the box. "Little girls in ballet dresses practising positions" (a line from the play we are doing) and suddenly past and present fuse and I am taking taking the Grade Two Cecchetti exam in London, wearing a short Grecian tunic, in a sweltering room lined with barres and mirrors. The children of the Young London Ballet dance on to the tiny stage in front of the orchestra, nice open arms, soft hands, long neck head up and smile. Joanna, smile. Now I am dancing at a concert in Kuala Lumpur, aged six, rocking a teddy bear in my arms and hearing two women whispering in the front row: "Isn't she sweet? When I knew how fiendish I looked with my two front teeth missing. Generally there are not enough women to go round at board meetings, but I think a quick polka would liven things up before the serious stuff starts."

Finished the book. Finished rehearsals in decaying pink room. Finished being thirty-six and celebrated the fact with loved ones old and new. Received tactful warning that one's son and heir would be arriving from school for lunch but would be without eyebrows, having shaved them off for reasons best known to himself. Great Powers. How could anyone do anything so dim? Stay! The memory machine starts whirling and, in an action replay, I see myself with black hair, white hair an inch long, an orange fringe cut to sublimely pencilled freckles, gold stockings, a Mata Hari wig, lime green glasses, hair dipped in ink, back-combed into an impenetrable beehive; and suddenly the loss of eyebrows seems a very moderate gesture. A son sans sourcils, hein? I shall rise above it.

Rise to a kipper

Kippers are for proper breakfasts and high teas, both meals that many people seldom eat nowadays. Smoked haddock, simmered in milk and topped with bright-eyed poached egg is another splendid dish that mussels-eaters miss. Real finnan haddie, smoked over peat or hardwood sawdust, looks pale and bonny beside cheaper, gaudily coloured fillets. But its flavour is much, much nicer.

Marinated kipper fillets are a cold first course that anyone who likes smoked salmon is almost sure to enjoy. The finer the kippers the better the dish, but the recipe does work well with frozen kipper fillets - thawed of course.

Marinated kippers
Serves six
8 kipper fillets
120 ml (4 fl oz) olive oil
2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
1 onion, sliced in very thin rings
Freshly ground black pepper
For the dressing
120 ml 4 fl oz crème fraîche or soured cream
Salt
2 tablespoons finely chopped chives or parsley

If the kipper fillets are not already skinned, lay them flesh-side down on a board and using a very sharp knife, work off the skin. Turn the fish over and slice each fillet diagonally into strips. Arrange the fish in one layer in a dish, reassembling the sliced fillets and laying them closely side by side.

Combine the olive oil and lemon juice and pour it over the fish. Scatter the onion rings on the dish and a generous sprinkling of black pepper. Cover and marinate in a cool place for 24 hours, or up to two days in the refrigerator. To serve the marinated kippers, drain them of oil and lemon juice and arrange the strips of fish on individual plates. Top each portion with a few of the onion rings. Combine the cream with a little salt and the chives or parsley and spoon a blob of it on to each plate. Hand the remainder round separately.

Smoked haddock chowder is one of those soups that end up being lunch or supper on its own - provided there is enough for seconds of course.

THE TIMES COOK



Shona Crawford Poole

Smoked haddock chowder
Serves four to six
1 large smoked haddock, or 450 g (1 lb) smoked haddock fillets
1.5 litres (2½ pints) milk
40 g (1½ oz) butter
110 g (4 oz) streaky bacon
1 large onion, finely chopped
680 g (1½ lbs) potatoes, peeled and diced
Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
1 tablespoon finely chopped parsley

Put the fish in a pan with the milk and bring it almost to the boil. Cook the fish at the gentlest of simmers until it flakes from the bone. Drain the fish and set it aside to cool. Reserve the milk.

Heat the butter in a large pan and add the bacon, cut in small dice or strips, cook on a low heat until the bacon has given up most of its fat, but has not browned. Add the chopped onion and continue cooking until it is transparent. Add the diced potato and turn it in the fat for a minute or two before adding the reserved milk. Bring to the boil and simmer, covered, until the vegetable are tender.

Flake the fish, removing all skin and bones, and add it to the soup. Season it with salt and plenty of freshly ground black pepper, and continue cooking until the fish is hot. Sprinkle with the chopped parsley and serve.

Tomorrow: The Americans who have made their houses in London. Why are they here?

The good food guide to parenthood

When Dorothy Phillips gave birth to her son Nicky on February 20, she felt both relieved and fortunate. She was relieved that Nicky was healthy. Her first baby, born several weeks premature, had lived for only eight hours. And she felt fortunate to be in the catchment area of one of the few National Health Service GPs in the country helping people have healthy babies by running a pre-pregnancy clinic.

Though it is common for women to seek advice on contraception, and more so to approach doctors for confirmation of suspected pregnancy, neither men nor women have traditionally sought medical help before trying for a baby.

Dorothy did so because she noticed a sign in her Yorkshire GP's surgery about a new Monday clinic, which her GP, Dr Paul Moxon, started in January last year. He explained to Dorothy that to investigate possible causes of pregnancies going wrong, he was studying the outcomes of those that were carefully planned. The clinic was designed to fill the gap between family planning and antenatal services so that during the foetus's most crucial period of development - its first eight weeks, when a woman invariably does not realize she is pregnant, she can make a special effort to take care of herself, thus reducing risks to the baby.

Pre-pregnancy or pre-conception care, as it is sometimes called, has existed informally for years. Any woman who mentioned to her GP that she was thinking of starting a family has probably received advice, and for people with special problems genetic counselling is available.

Recently, formal pre-pregnancy clinics have sprung up in hospitals but mainly for couples with problems such as epilepsy. Pre-pregnancy advice has not routinely been dispensed to healthy couples, except by campaigning voluntary organizations.

Dorothy says: "I was keen to get pregnant straight away, but I was persuaded against that, to give Brian and me time to get fit. I had a thorough physical overhaul, including a blood test. I had had a rubella antibody test the year before. The doctor wanted to know whether Brian and I smoked, and our method of birth control; couples on the Pill are advised to come off it six months before trying for a baby."

"We were encouraged to exercise more, and the doctor wanted to know whether Brian had ever worked with chemicals. However, to write down everything we ate and drank for a week. The doctor was especially interested in my weight, and concerned that I should not be slimming."

The questionnaire results were fed



The well-planned baby: Mrs Dorothy Phillips with baby Nicky and Dr Paul Moxon

into a computer at Leeds Polytechnic. Analysis revealed that though Dorothy and Brian were eating well, they were not getting enough iron or folic acid for optimum health. They were advised to eat more liver and green vegetables, and Dorothy was given vitamin and mineral supplements to take for a month before trying to get pregnant.

They were also encouraged to keep up a mainly wholefood diet, which was not a problem because the couple normally avoid sugar eat no bread but wholemeal, and eat lots of grains, fresh fruit, and yoghurt. Both moderated their drinking and stepped up their cycling and swimming.

Dorothy became pregnant almost as soon as she tried. By the time it was confirmed she had no need to change any habits - she had done that months before. The tale ended happily with the birth of 9lb 12oz Nicky, the clinic's first baby. His largeness particularly thrilled Dr Moxon, who says there's a correlation between low birth weight and small brain size and the likelihood of developmental and educational problems.

Dorothy and Brian's routine may seem cranky, but it could soon become the norm. The Health Education Council is now in the process of revising its pregnancy literature to encourage all couples

contemplating pregnancy to visit their GP three to six months before trying for a baby and to:

- discuss whether any drugs they are taking will effect a prospective baby;
- discuss their medical histories so that the GP can determine whether a screening for infection is required;
- have a rubella antibody test;
- have their blood pressures checked;
- give up smoking;
- review their diets;
- give up alcohol, or at least limit it to a maximum of two glasses of wine a week. Binge drinking, especially by the woman, is particularly discouraged: five drinks at a party are not considered to do the five-week-old brain any good at all;
- review their weight. The new thinking encourages prospective mothers to be 20 per cent heavier than was once thought necessary;
- do more exercise;
- review their birth control method. Barrier methods, such as the sheath, are preferable to the Pill;
- leave a six-month gap between pregnancies.

The move has the backing of the medical profession; a Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists

report published last autumn concluded that it was "necessary" that "all women should be prepared for pregnancy before conception occurs". And the Medical Research Council is now sufficiently confident that the incidence of spina bifida can be reduced by pre-pregnancy planning to go ahead with a controversial trial to test the theory.

A change in policy in favour of pre-pregnancy counselling will, however, impose a massive extra burden on the Health Service, and it is questionable whether this can be justified. Professor Murdoch Elder, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Hammersmith Hospital, London, says: "It would not be at all fruitful. Obviously you should not go round drinking half a bottle of gin and smoking 20 cigarettes a day if you're planning a pregnancy, but this is the sort of information the media can pass on to the public."

"Screening for infection would not significantly influence the outcome of conception, because even if the doctor were to find, say, a vaginal infection, and treat it, it could recur."

"I think pre-pregnancy care is justified for those with a medical problem, but not for relatively healthy people who walk in off the street."

The problem is, argue its proponents, how do you define healthy?

Dr Philip Barlow, environmental health lecturer at the University of Aston in Birmingham, claims, for instance, "that the level of daily intake of both copper and zinc in typical western diets is very close to estimated minimum requirements for these metals."

There are even those who argue that while the Health Education Council's initiative is a step in the right direction, a gigantic leap is needed. Mrs Belinda Barnes is one, so four years ago she founded Foresight, a charity to promote pre-pregnancy care. Foresight has grown to 5,000 members, with a network of 21 doctors running clinics privately throughout Britain.

Foresight's programme is similar to Dr Moxon's, but a snippet of hair rather than a week's diet is analyzed to detect mineral intake. Foresight places great emphasis on hair analysis, but while Foresight doctors are convinced of the efficacy of this technique, others, such as Dr James Withalls, are dubious about it, saying they have had conflicting results.

Details apart, however, all agree on one thing: a little planning is a small price to pay for a better chance of a healthy baby.

Ruth Winter

TALKBACK

A matter for gratitude

From Anita Graham-Dixon, *The Old School, Ashal, nr. Bedford, Oxon.*

I am glad that Beryl Downing's breast cancer (First Person, April 20) proved to be curable by a segmental mastectomy followed by radiotherapy. However, speaking as a woman whose only choice, a few years ago, between life and death was to undergo the radical alternative, I found her remark that "I could not have borne to meet myself in the bathroom mirror everyday for the rest of my life and be disgusted by my mutilation" rather insensitive. Also, it may have the unintended effect of frightening some women off making a decision which could save their lives.

I am as conscious of my appearance as the next woman, but I assure Miss Downing that a radical mastectomy, performed by a surgeon whose judgment one trusts, is something which one comes in due course entirely to accept, almost to forget about (as do one's friends), and above all to be eternally grateful for.

Restoring self-esteem

From Mrs Barbara C. Henderson, *36 Mills Spur, Old Windsor, Berks.*

It was good to read of Beryl Downing's robust and positive attitude about breast cancer. By I was sorry that she should say that she would be "disgusted by my mutilation" when she referred to the possibility of a radical mastectomy. I know that these emotive words may well have lowered the morale of those women who have had this operation and are struggling to come to terms with it and trying not to think of it as either disgusting or mutilating.

For those who do, I think the possibility of a silicone implant by a plastic surgeon should be considered, as this is often done either privately or under the NHS. I have had this done, having had two mastectomies 10 and 4 years ago, and although one implant was very successful and the other not quite so, it is a real restorative to one's self-esteem to be "balanced" bodily.

Further information about this operation along with other help and advice can be obtained from the Mastectomy Association.

Licensing Depo Provera

From Marlene Winfield, *Dalkon Shield Association, 24 Pashall Road, London NW5.*

Dame Josephine Barnes' testimony (April 26) to the hearing on the licensing of Depo Provera throws up some important issues which go beyond the scope of the hearing. She complains of "unwarrantable interference" with a doctor's freedom to prescribe and the implication that doctors are "unreliable" and "act unethically."

Is our present system of adverse reaction reporting efficient enough to allow doctors the degree of autonomy that Dame Josephine seems to be advocating? One need not look back further than the Open score of last year for an example of the failure of the system to keep track of the side effects of a relatively new drug.

Contraceptives present a particular difficulty for doctors in prescribing because no alternative is without its risks either of pregnancy or to health. Therefore, a certain amount of minimizing of risk must be part of any advice given by the doctor. Unfortunately, as in the case of the Dalkon Shield IUD, there may also be some degree of minimizing of symptoms after prescription in the absence of a good alternative.

Although very few of those who have been injured by contraceptives would say that their doctors behaved unethically, there does exist in this area a need for very careful consideration of risk, close monitoring of symptoms resulting from use, and a high level of awareness on the part of doctors of the early signs of something going wrong. I would question whether any of these criteria are at present met sufficiently well to allow doctors the degree of freedom which Dame Josephine is advocating in the case of Depo Provera.

The history of contraception since the days of barrier methods has followed the pattern of new development - great demand - adverse reactions - new development - great demand - adverse reactions - and so on. Until a contraceptive is developed which can be prescribed with impunity or until a great deal more is known about the contraceptives that are prescribed now, contraception should not be an area where each doctor is left to exercise his or her own judgment however well-intentioned he or she may be.

SOME PEOPLE SAY YOU DON'T NEED UNIONS ANYMORE

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THE TIMES DIARY

Double event

Jacobo Timerman, the former Argentine newspaper publisher, was on his way to the New York opening of the film version of his account of Argentine persecution, *Prisoner Without a Name, Cell Without a Number*, when he heard that his son Daniel had been imprisoned in Israel a second time for refusing to serve with the armed forces in Lebanon. Daniel, one of only two objectors ordered a second time to Lebanon, had said he "did not want to do to civilians what the Argentine army had done to my father". The proceeds of Timerman's premiere in New York are to be donated to the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, who agitate in Buenos Aires on behalf of "the disappeared".

Time out of joint

The newly published *Fisher Guide to Britain*, edited by the president-elect of the Society of American Travel Writers, talks of England losing cricket Test matches against Scotland, Wales and Ireland, puts Rugby Union clubs in Rugby League and says of the former home of *The Times*: "The awesome daily, still going strong, was moved to a different location, but a bronze sundial by Henry Moore is set outside to commemorate the place of birth." Awesome daily is all right, and still going strong is fine, but that Henry Moore bronze disappeared within days of *The Times* leaving Printing House Square. It was sold by the building's new owners before our former management remembered to claim it, and now decorates the forecourt of the IBM Arthur K. Watson International Education Center at La Hulpe, in Belgium.

● A sign in Alton, Hampshire, says: "Remember your nearest Job Centre at Cross and Pillory Lane."

Offside

Know your enemy? The Danish soccer union has apologized officially for an information sheet it distributed before the European Nations Cup match between Denmark and Greece in Copenhagen last week. The sheet, compiled by Radio Denmark's soccer expert, Fritz Ahlstrom, described sex crimes and other violations allegedly committed by players in the Greek national and junior teams. Greek officials had claimed a foul saying that official sports information should be restricted to "pertinent facts". Impertinent or not, Denmark won 1-0.

BARRY FANTONI



"I'll never be much of an historian. I find it so hard changing my mind."

● Mentar Software of Sheffield have devised a computer program called *Scrambler* for teaching spelling. Their circular to head-teachers advertising the fact observes: "Poor spelling tends to be self-perpetuating. It then spells unduly 'unduly' and in one of the exercises refers to the 'Faulklands'."

Island home?

A planning application now at Guildhall will, if granted, provide the only privately-occupied Wren residence in the City of London. Filed by the building design and development company, Blashford and Peto, it is for turning the Wren church tower of St Alban, Wood Street, into a single dwelling with five floors. St Alban's was built by Wren between 1682 and 1685 but wrecked by bombs in December, 1941. The nave was subsequently demolished, but the tower stonework was restored and left as an empty shell on a road island in the middle of the widened street. Though the entrance lobby on the ground floor is only 12ft square, the walkway out toward the top, so dark by the reception room planned for the fifth floor the measurement is a respectable 15ft by 15, making it an unusual, but highly desirable, home.

Another London tower, one of the city's best-known river-side landmarks, is threatened by a planning application. The Oxo tower is part of the empty Stamford Wharf on the South Bank just west of Blackfriars Bridge. Albert Moore, architect, overcame LCC objections to advertising by incorporating the product name into the fabric. The magenta stained glass windows spell Oxo on all four sides of this witty Art Deco building, which relieves a rather grim stretch of river bank. It will be pulled down if permission is granted for a large office building proposed by the Greycoats/Commercial Estates consortium. Oxo lovers who want to put beef into the campaign to save it should write to 22 Roswell St, SE1.

PHS

No law unto themselves

by David Lederman

In March last year a 59-year-old tax consultant employed by a City firm for a number of years was convicted of fraud. He had no previous convictions. It was agreed that the most he could have got away with was £800. He received a year's imprisonment.

As a result he was ruined. Dismissed from his job, he lost his pension rights and, at that age and with a conviction, his chances of finding similar work were virtually nil.

In mitigation at the trial, it was said that if ever there was a case for not sending such a man to prison, this was it. With our prisons overflowing, was not this an obvious case not to impose such a sentence? The judge disagreed, and the Court of Appeal agreed with him.

Anyone, such as myself, who occasionally sits on the bottom rung of our judicial system as an assistant recorder, knows the basis of this "system" of justice. A tariff has grown up for robberies of one kind or another: 10 years for a serious robbery with weapons; 15 for a robbery well planned by professional criminals; five years for a mugger who leaves a little old lady confused.

But who created this tariff? The statutes give the judges an unlimited power of

sentence: the penalties for robbery go up to imprisonment for life - not much help. The answer is, a gradual consensus among crown court judges, assisted by pronouncements from the Court of Appeal. But why 10 years? Why 15 years? Why five? Why not seven years, 11 or three?

To us, not serving the sentence, this may appear superficial, an insignificant juggling of figures. But to the man convicted, every year, every 12 months, every 365 days in a cell, these figures count for a great deal. And so they do for his wife and children.

Whether the sentence is suspended or not seems to depend to a large extent on whether the judge feels the defendant would be "getting away" with it or whether it would make nonsense of a long trial.

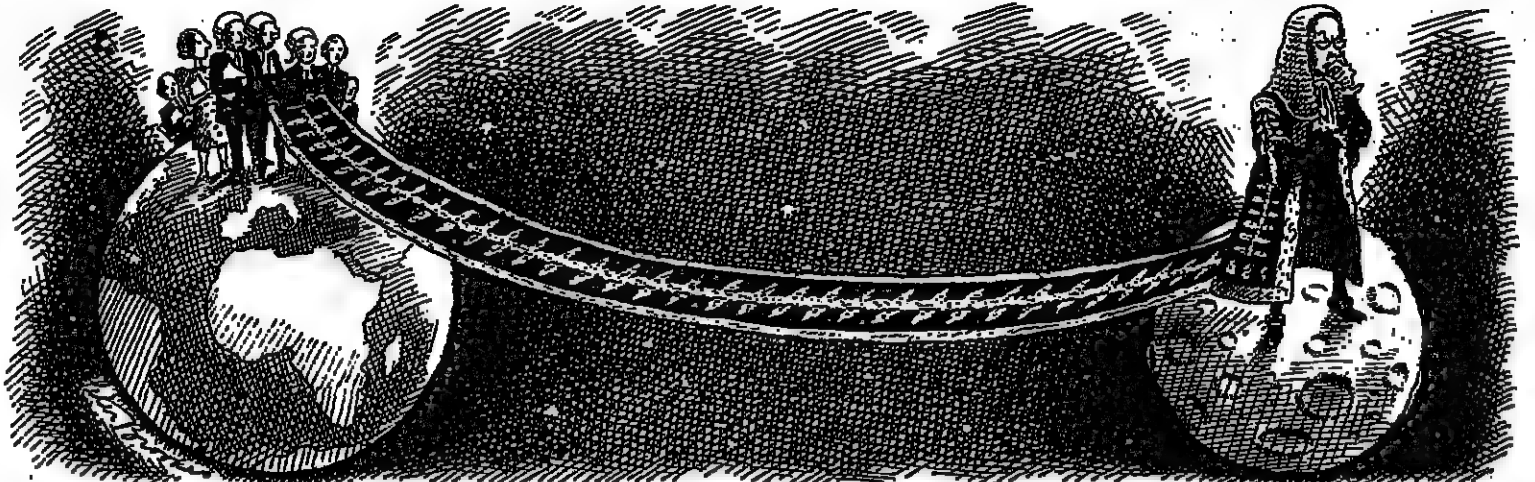
The complaint that I make is that there is no proper system of the administration of justice. Judges do not follow up their sentences to see the result. No individual organization provides them with informed opinion as to what the minimum effective sentence should be. All they get are conflicting statements by politicians that they should impose heavy sentences on football hooligans, coupled with pronouncements that as our prisons are overcrowded they should avoid, if possible, sending

people to prison. Judges tend to ignore such advice.

Of course, they do get some assistance. Probation officers and psychiatrists compile reports which may or may not influence the judge. He is certainly not bound by them. He remains isolated, conscious of the "tariff", and unless there is something extraordinary, he follows it. What more can he do?

The present situation would be improved, I suggest, if judges were removed from their isolated positions on the bench and became directly involved with penologists, social workers, probation officers, prison governors and solicitors and barristers on the shop floor of our judicial system. This should be compulsory for all.

It is no longer satisfactory to have judges appointed from the Bar (plus the few former solicitors) and immediately elevated into that remote realm known as the "judiciary". One learns a lot on the bench, but that learning should be pooled and shared with all those other people who have to look after the prisons. To achieve a real "system", everyone mentioned earlier must belong to one central organization - central in the sense that it forces us all to become combined in the administration of justice.



The Falklands: why we were beaten

As a commission of inquiry into the Falklands war prepares to meet in Buenos Aires, a senior Argentine officer directly involved in the conflict agreed to talk to Andrew Thompson of *The Times*. He insisted on total anonymity

The officer said he had been informed by General Galtieri - who is now in prison - of the plan to occupy the islands in the first days of March, 1982. "I would have been less surprised if the order had been to prepare a commando operation against Punta Arenas, the Chilean military base. It surprised me because diplomatic negotiations over the islands' future seemed to be progressing, and I was worried because the Argentine armed forces were not fully prepared for operations on the islands. I told Galtieri of my doubts, but he answered that the political and diplomatic aspects of the plan were well looked after by the military junta and the foreign ministry.

The officer spent some time discussing the attitude of the Falklanders to the Argentine occupation. "They had been brought up to believe that we were aggressors, so it was natural that they would resent us," he said. "For a start, they dislike Anglo-Argentines intensely. The hardest time came from those directly linked to the British colonial system. Some young islanders carried out small acts of non-cooperation. And, of course, the presence of uniformed troops and military equipment was also a shock to a community used to living in a tranquil, isolated existence."

Despite this, he believed that with time a good relationship could have been developed. "At one meeting, I told the keepers we had plans to install a fishery and a seaweed plant, which could provide up to 50 jobs. One Falklander asked if the jobs would be given to Argentines from the mainland. I said: 'No, they would be for the islanders. They then asked whether Argentines would receive such special treatment. And I said: 'No, because having the Argentine flag over the islands was more than enough."

As for the behaviour of Argentine troops and conscripts, he said: "We had only minor incidents - our kids killing sheep for food, or entering houses without permission. In some cases, relations between the conscripts and the locals were very good. And I am proud to say that during the whole war there was no major incident, such as an Argentine soldier raping a local girl, or anything like that. We paid for everything we used. The Falkland Islands Company people seemed happy so long as they got their money."

Though not directly involved in the diplomatic negotiations, the officer said it was clear by late April that negotiations were not going well and that "some form of class war was likely". When General Galtieri visited the islands, he said that the

British recapture of South Georgia did not seem enough for United Kingdom public opinion, and that further actions were likely. The sinking of the cruiser, General Belgrano, had effectively closed negotiations over the peace plan of President Fernandez Beza. "I think it was a mistake to shut the door completely on negotiations then. Days afterwards our air force hit the Sheffield with an Exocet. Our government could have become more flexible after that, once we had shown we were capable of giving as good as we got."

The essential problem of the war, the officer said, was that it was impossible with the available troops and equipment to mount a proper defence. "We had to do the best with what we had. We had identified nine or 10 places where the British forces could start their landing. If we placed important detachments at all those positions, we would be spread too thin."

The officer said the Argentine forces had suffered three big disadvantages: lack of helicopters, lack of long-range artillery, and lack of night-fighting experience. "After San Carlos," he added, "the British paratroopers marched all the way to the hills around Puerto Argentino (Port Stanley) in about eight days. They had heavy packs, but the task force used helicopters continuously to carry artillery and supplies. At that time we had about 10 helicopters left. Some had been shot down by Harriers. The largest, a Chinook, which can transport heavy equipment and troops, had engine trouble."

This, combined with the British artillery's greater range, drastically cut the feasibility of a counter-attack.

"If we went out to meet the attacking forces, we would be sending troops forward without proper artillery support. And if we spread out from Puerto Argentino, we would be extending the front and diluting its firepower. We have been criticized for not counter-attacking, but if we had moved out in that fashion, the British could have jumped over our positions with helicopters, cutting off our troops. "We did the only thing that seemed possible in the circum-

stances: concentrate our forces outside Puerto Argentino, and meanwhile send out small commando groups to harass the British forces and send back information. Many of those commando operations were successful. "It had been impossible to counter the devastating British artillery fire. The British guns were equipped with electronic devices which, automatically correct the range and direction after each salvo. Ours had a much smaller range, and we had to use the classic system of shooting to the right, to the left, behind, and in front of each objective before establishing precisely the angle of fire. By that time, they would be almost upon us."

"Like most Latin American armies, we are trained to fight by day," the officer added. "The British, however, could keep up artillery barrages and helicopter operations right through the night. Towards the end, the British had another advantage: continual night-time shelling from task force ships."

The officer said that General Mario Menendez (military governor of the islands), faced with the encirclement of Port Stanley, contacted General Galtieri to tell him it was impossible to maintain the position and that Argentina should accept resolution 502 of the United Nations. Galtieri had refused, saying: "You are in the field, you know your responsibilities."



General Menendez "resentment that he surrendered"

General Menendez received a radio message from General Moore offering a ceasefire from 1300 hours on June 14, and after consulting his direct commander (the head of the Fifth Army Corps in Patagonia), accepted it.

Many Argentines, the officer said, resent Menendez for having surrendered. "But the battle was already lost," the officer insisted. "What would have been the point of prolonging the death and mutilation?"

The problem had been the triumphalist tone of Argentine press reports. "Argentines had been told we were winning the war. There was a climate of euphoria completely unrelated to what was happening in the theatre of operations. And certain people had been saying in public that the Argentine flag would never be taken down, even if it meant 4,000 or 40,000 deaths."

"Don't misunderstand me. I have never questioned the political decision to occupy the islands. The Malvinas (Falklands) were, and are still, Argentine. I did my duty to the best of my ability. But it was impossible to win in our situation. What is important now is to defend the reputation of the armed forces. "That is what the inter-forces commission is investigating: what happened, and why. This has to be known by Argentine public opinion, which, taken from the heights of euphoria to sudden depression, has a distorted view of what happened."

A charge rejected by the officer is that Argentine officers did not fight. "That is not true," he said. "There were many cases of heroism. And some of our conscripts spent two months in trenches, in the wet and the cold, and when the time came they fought to their ability. The performance of army units was in some cases excellent, in other cases good, and in others not so good. That happens in most wars."

Having met British officers after the fall of Port Stanley, he said that there was no real hatred, of the kind that existed during the Second World War between the Allies and the Nazis, or between the North Americans and the Japanese. The ceasefire was at 1300 hours, but the final agreement between Menendez and Moore was not reached until about 1900 hours. It is difficult to imagine what would have happened had agreement on terms and conditions not been reached.

"The British also seemed relieved it had stopped. Our officers and theirs were already talking in the streets, sharing impressions. They had quite a few who could speak Spanish. General Moore is an outstanding person, in professional and human terms."

tertiles, quintiles, deciles, percentiles, and the other statisticians' words, ending in -ile. These are useful words for statisticians in their mystery, though not of much use for the rest of us. It looks as though we shall destroy them and make them mean something quite different, for which perfectly good other words already exist.

Unfortunately the latest *Supplement to the Oxford English Dictionary* is making things worse by giving both the correct and incorrect definitions, each backed with suitable quotations, some of them from people who should have known better. Lexicographers are in business to record language, not to pass judgment on it. There comes a stage when a misuse has to be reclassified as a change of language, but it is possible to believe that we have not yet quite reached that stage with *Quartile*, *pace* Oxford. If we have, the statisticians are just going to have to invent some new jargon, which we can then misappropriate, misunderstand, and muck up.

Philip Howard's *Weasel Words* will be published by Corgi on May 27.

John Vincent

Gandhi, Britain's gift to India

Why has the film *Gandhi* become the thinking man's *Gone With The Wind*? Because it offers Victorian values, spiritual leadership (however suspect), a Christ substitute. Gandhi, with his Tolstoy Farm and his Food Reform, was a recognizable type of Victorian liberal crank. Only the luck of birth saved him from doing Arts and Crafts in Leitchworth. He is a prime example of late Victorian secular religiosity. This is what the public hungers for but does not get from the decorous house-masters Cardinal Hume, or from that genial man of sense Dr Runcie.

The Gandhi phenomenon has little to do with India, that great exporter of moral conservatism to these shores (a case of coals to Newcastle, surely). Britain decided to forget India in 1948. What we like about Gandhi is that he is like Macaulay, exported our secular liberal ideals to India. We are admiring ourselves in Gandhi. To the charm of religiosity, he adds the claim of being the last western cultural imperialist.

Modern techniques go much further in denying India's identity. Some say Indians are poor, and therefore belong to the Third World, an economic category illicitly used as a cultural description. Others say Indians are blacks, and exist only in the context of a broader blackness. Both are ways of not accepting the reality of India: both are forms of cultural imperialism. One can only protest against such sorry nonsense whenever it occurs.

The film queues for *Gandhi* say something about public appetites. Not only does the public want to see goodness and wisdom, it wants to see those qualities exhibited in connexion with public affairs. Heaven knows, we have tried to cure this morbid desire. We have given the public the Consumer Society, the Permissive Society, free range of the Mediterranean, and yet they still want to see goodness and truth made flesh in public figures.

Longing for moral beauty should not be directed towards politics. But, and it is a great fact, it is so directed, at least among thinking men. Public life has to accept this. It was not always so. In the days of Pitt, Peel, or Palmerston, it was enough if you did the work. You did not have to set up as a moral teacher.

But in the last century, with the fading of aristocracy and religion, a new mantle has fallen upon premier and monarch. Thus the present Queen, like her father and grandfather, genuinely expresses that dutiful respectability which is the outlook that divides Britain least.

The Crown is unnoticed as a moral teacher because it teaches what everybody accepts, but in doing so it fulfils perhaps the "most important" of all its national functions.

With prime ministers, the tension between job description and public

expectation is much greater. A prime minister has to chair committees, to master enormous quantities of paper, to assess opinion, to present a case. Anything else is really time off. It is the sort of job that would suit an energetic barrister. Morality and intensity count less than industry and stamina in the modern executive's premiership. There is little value in a prime minister who is better than the ordinary citizen; a mildly bad man would serve better to keep the papers moving and the consensus happy with postdated cheques on the future.

Alas, the public will not have it so. It wants those Victorian values which were nowhere more widely prevalent than in the Foot family. Why, Mr Foot himself is a Victorian classic; a surviving echo of the literary adventurer of the John Morley type. When Mr Foot attacks Victorian values, he merely shows a becoming modesty about the rock whence he was hewn. Deprived of an aristocracy which once towered above the humble incubents of Number 10, he spread a sense of identity, an effective Anglican voice which is more than a Sunday edition of *The Guardian*, the populace turns to Downing Street for the creation of moral atmosphere. Secularization has raised prime ministers from harmless drudges to creators of atmosphere.

This is probably a bad thing, but inevitable. It is no use saying that modern society needs good managers if it wants something else. A supremely good manager, like Helmut Schmidt, may fail because he cannot create ethical drama. In our valley of the blind, he who attitudinizes best is king, while the Pits and Peels do not command the respect they would in other walks of life. Our instinct for sacerdotal rule has survived, but has ended up in a comically wrong place.

In the United States, one simply appoints a Head Attitudinist to present the decisions of the great institutions of state. Here, the dilemma is easier to state than to resolve. If the public wants moral teachers, it will probably get only empty pretensions. If it wants management, it might actually get a competent manager.

One may accept that consensus, rule by consent, a sense of identity, and social cohesion are far more difficult to maintain than before. But that is all the more reason, surely, for not heaping these tasks on a prime minister who is in committee all morning, in the House in the afternoon, and reading state papers far into the night. In the end the answer is for the public not to expect from politicians what they cannot supply, and to seek moral teaching in a less implausible quarter.

The author is Professor of Modern History at the University of Bristol.

Michael Meacher

The great divide opens up again

One Nation has until now been an important strand in Tory thinking. Perhaps the single deepest impraturn of the Thatcher years is not simply abandonment of the trend to national unity but the extent to which it has been put into reverse.

On almost all fronts, class divisions have been sharpened over the past four years, to a degree unparalleled in recent British history. The pattern is similar wherever one looks.

Almost on the day the *Financial Times* Industrial Ordinary share index burst through the 700 barrier - last Wednesday - Parliament was told that seven million Britons are living in supplementary benefit poverty. The share index represented a rise of 163 per cent for shareholders since April 1979 while there has been a 60 per cent rise since mid-1979 in the numbers subject to means-tested supplementary benefit.

This graphic indication of the growing polarization of wealth and poverty is supported by other official evidence. Immediately above the supplementary benefit line are the low-paid, defined as those earning less than two-thirds of male median earnings. In 1979, fewer than 10 per cent of male manual workers were low-paid. By 1982 the proportion had increased sharply to almost one-third.

At the other end of the scale, the director on five times average annual earnings (now more than £40,000), according to Institute of Fiscal Studies calculations, about 26 per cent better off in real terms than in 1979, partly because salary rises at this level have well outstripped inflation, but mainly because of the very large income tax reductions in the top rate in 1979-80.

It is not only the market system, therefore, that has deepened income inequalities. Taxation policy has been used to reinforce them. A parliamentary answer given to me on March 15 shows that real changes in tax allowances during the past four years, over and above indexations, have left poor families - those below £100 a week - £45 worse off, while high-paid persons on more than £30,000 have been left £3,650 better off.

The income-tax burden has thus shifted from rich to poor. For the average-paid family, income tax since 1979 has risen from 24 per cent to almost 28 per cent of all earnings and even more for the poorest families on half average earnings. For them, the rise has been from 12 to 17 per cent. For the highest income families at five times average earnings, there has been a large tax cut, from 52 to 43 per cent of their total earnings.

The biggest divider of all is, of course, unemployment. The manner and depth of the divide is not generally recognized. Unemployment has nearly trebled over the past four years but its impact has been far from uniform between the classes. Information for this comes from the EEC Labour Force Survey for Great Britain, though its latest figures relate to mid-1981. What they show is that when the unemployment rate overall was then 9.5 per cent, for professionals it was 2.1 per cent. But for skilled manual workers it was 8.3 per cent and for unskilled manual workers 12.9 per cent. Now the unemployment rate is 13.3 per cent overall, extrapolation suggests the rate for professionals must now be about 3 per cent, while for unskilled manual workers it may have reached 19 per cent.

The financial impact of unemployment itself is also having a polarizing effect on society. Cuts in the real level of unemployment benefits, taxation of the benefit and, most of all, the abolition of the earnings-related supplement, have together reduced the value of unemployment benefit from nearly a quarter of average earnings in 1979 to little more than a seventh.

Similar shifts have been created throughout the welfare field in general. Mortgage interest relief to owner-occupiers, who belong mostly to the better-off half of the population, has risen from £220 to £240 a household over the past four years. Rent subsidies to council tenants, who are generally among the poorer half of the population, have plummeted from £275 to only £63 a household over the same period.

In education, £55m of taxpayers' money has been spent on buying places in private schools for about 5,500 of the brightest pupils, from the maintained schools. For the other 99 per cent of children in these schools, however, public expenditure cuts have brought about, according to Government inspectors' reports, a serious deterioration in school buildings, book provision and access to special subjects for poorer children.

Mrs Thatcher said on taking office on May 4, 1979: "Where there is discord, may we bring harmony." It has not turned out like that. Class struggle was previously said to have perished in this country, lulled into oblivion by the blandishments of three decades of bi-partisan consensus. Now it is not only alive again, but very much kicking. The author is Labour MP for Oldham, West, James Curran, whose column normally appears in this space on Wednesday, is ill.

Out on the quartiles

New words for old, by Philip Howard

A new and trendy science that their technical terms are irresistible to journalists and other bower birds of language. We pick them up, and get them wrong, thus annoying the statisticians and obscuring the important truths that they have to tell us. We are doing just this at present with the statisticians' words ending in -ile, spreading confusion, and destroying the usefulness of the words.

Here is an example of the popular misuse, from the first leader. I regret to say, in the greatest newspaper in the world, published not a million miles from Gray's Inn recently: "A broad guarantee to keep pay within the upper quartile of manual earnings." That is a striking use of the new vague word *quartile*. There is a boring old word that conveys the meaning intended better: viz. "quarter". What the leader meant was "within the upper quarter", or, in

other, statisticians' words, "above the upper quartile".

A distribution of values, such as pay rates or whatever, has four quarters and three *quartiles*, which are the points of division between the quarters. This was the definition by the founding fathers of statistics, who invented the concept because they had a use for it. It is not a concept likely to be of everyday use to ordinary citizens in their daily business of watching the bill being added up at the supermarket, or considering the odds in a by-election or the Boat Race.

The middle *quartile* also has the technical name of the "median"; another grossly abused term. To say "in the upper quartile" is just as wrong as to say "in the upper median", when what you mean is "in the upper half".

Precisely the same mistake is spreading like the measles with



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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

It is exactly a year since the sinking of HMS Sheffield followed closely on that of the Argentine cruiser Belgrano. There is now again naval manoeuvring in the South Atlantic. The Argentine fleet is exercising at sea, though well clear of the exclusion zone. The cargo ship chartered by a group of bereaved Argentine families is cruising somewhere off the islands, while still threatening to intrude itself into Falkland waters against the wishes of the British authorities. Another five warships are leaving Britain to replace those on station, with the changeover conveniently timed to ensure a maximum naval presence in the South Atlantic on May 25th, Argentina's National Independence Day. In the current state of play, that date could easily be used as an occasion for an official – or even an unofficial – attempt to provide some headline-gathering harassment of the British forces.

There are two separate, though related, issues here. The first is the lesser one: how to respond to the question of the bereaved families, since beneath the Argentine propaganda plays there is a genuine humanitarian issue which has, after all, been met fully with regard to British widows and their families. Death in battle is a great unifier. Is there any reason why legitimate grief should need a passport?

However, the answer to that question has to take account of the fact that normal courtesies are in suspense, entirely on account of the refusal by the Argentine Junta to declare a formal cessation of hostilities. Until they do Britain is right to insist that the Argentine mourners cannot make independent forays to the cemetery where their loved ones lie. These matters either have to be dealt with customarily through the Red Cross, or else solely by the British. Perhaps now that the British mourners have returned, the British Government should offer direct assistance to Argentinians.

tinians. It could propose to send a cargo ship from the Fleet train to ferry *bona fide* mourners from Argentina to the Falklands, and back. In that way – at relatively little cost to the British taxpayer – the humanitarian point would be met, and the logistics of an Argentine presence on the Falklands, as well as the danger of that presence upsetting the Falklanders, would both be kept firmly under British control.

Behind the politics of grief, however, lies a larger perspective, characterized by the spectacle of two rival fleets lurking in waters where they were lately in a shooting war. There is unfinished business in the South Atlantic. All the signs suggest that it will remain unfinished for a long time yet.

First there is the fact that Argentina is still in the midst of a profound political crisis, which shows no sign of abatement. While it lasts there can be no question of any reliable conversation – let alone negotiation – with Buenos Aires. Argentina is still awaiting its own equivalent of a Franks Report, though that is not likely to provide more than a temporary patch over the deep wounds which lie on a society lacerated in every limb. The armed forces are split, the Church is split, political factions form and reform, smelling power, though still far removed from its reality. So Argentina domestically is thoroughly ill-prepared to tackle any questions concerning the future of the South Atlantic, whose murky and indefinite wastes were illuminated so brightly by the fireworks of the Falklands war.

Nevertheless some political voices in Britain can still be heard insisting that the Fortresses Falklands option cannot last, and that negotiations must soon begin with Buenos Aires. This view is echoed, though less persistently, at the United Nations. In South American capitals it recurs, though with neither much conviction nor follow through. Sir Anthony

Parsons, who led the British delegation at the United Nations last summer, writing in the *Chatham House Quarterly* "International Affairs" has noted

"the difference between the attitudes of many states as expressed in their capitals, compared to their public positions as stated before the eyes of the world in New York. On the Latin American side, so far as I know, little or no hostility was manifested towards Britain in the majority of Latin American capitals. This contrasted strongly with the flood of rhetoric which poured out in the Security Council."

Mr Cranley Onslow, on his recent tour of South American capitals, would have encountered the same phenomenon, and drawn his own conclusions.

The question of sovereignty is not negotiable. The Argentines have a way of referring to negotiations which conceal the fact that what they really mean is a British concession on the principle and a negotiation thereafter to decide the method of hand-over. If sovereignty is disputed it should be resolved, not by force, but by resort to the international court. In their hearts, members of the United Nations know that, yet somehow in their rhetoric they seem to forget it. It will be the only way Argentina will be able to persuade Britain to discuss the question of sovereignty.

Meanwhile the possibilities of developing the resources of the South Atlantic, and maintaining some kind of naval security in the region remain uncharted. That is sad, but not too serious. The question of Antarctica does not any way come up for review for some years, and ideas about South Atlantic security – involving Brazil, Argentina and South Africa as the core – have been around for many years without any coherent shape emerging from their conversations. In the long run there is no alternative for Britain but to exercise quiet resolution and patience until a reliable and stable Argentine government emerges from that country's long night of sorrow.

POLAND'S LAMP OF LIBERTY

The May Day clashes between police and demonstrators in the streets of Poland and further moves against prominent representatives of Polish culture such as Andrzej Walicki have called into question the Papal visit planned for June. Western policy towards the government of General Jaruzelski is also subject to reassessment. Yesterday Polish government spokesmen maintained that the demonstrations would have no effect on the Papal visit. But it was also announced that there would be no amnesty for political prisoners, despite the request of the Pope.

Solidarity leaders called for a peaceful ceremony to mark the anniversary of the May 3 Constitution, thus paying tribute to the "memory of generations of Polish patriots who fought for freedom." The liberal 1791 Constitution was short-lived because of Russian intervention, and the call to mark it by wearing ribbons in the national colours, and by maintaining a one-minute silence at noon, was sure to be resented by the Jaruzelski regime, still smarting from the Solidarity demonstrations on Sunday in which a demonstrator was killed and several injured. Polish nationalism, strong religious faith, and worker discontent make a dangerous combination for the government, which it has shown itself unable to handle without resorting to violence. It would do well to heed Lech Walesa, and begin talks with Solidarity before the violence is reciprocated.

General Jaruzelski has proved unable to restore economic and

social stability. Production is declining and living standards have dropped sharply. The numbers demonstrating in support of Solidarity, large though they were, form only the tip of a vast iceberg of popular resentment: only a small proportion of sympathizers are prepared to risk arrest, depriving their families of their breadwinner. Yet General Jaruzelski claimed on Sunday that Poland was "on the path to normalization" and said that the opposition was confined to a "pitiful fringe." He has shown no indication of wishing to reach a compromise with Walesa and other moderate representatives of the Polish public.

Thousands have left the party, and the new trade union movement sponsored by the government in a vain attempt to provide a tame substitute for Solidarity, has not even recruited the low membership level of the former official unions. It is a mere fraction of the size of Solidarity, which reached almost ten million before being banned. To refuse to negotiate with moderates like Walesa is to risk the escalation of violence and the further worsening of Poland's economic crisis.

Denouncing the continued repression in Poland, President Reagan has reaffirmed his support for Solidarity and rightly insisted that the raising of economic sanctions should be dependent on an easing of martial law restrictions. The West should continue to press the Polish authorities to end their violations of human rights and permit the population to

organize their own trade union movement.

Any slackening of sanctions as an incentive should be restricted to areas of direct help to the people of Poland; such as health and food, and should be publicized through radio broadcasts as being no concession to a still unreformed regime. The visit of the Pope is of such importance to the people of Poland that it cannot be regarded as giving any measure of legitimacy to the regime, as would the arrival in Warsaw of a Western political leader.

In the Vatican on Sunday, Pope John Paul II spoke in defence of workers' rights, and although he made no direct reference to Poland, he called for greater "solidarity, fraternity and liberty". In a message sent to the Pope, underground leaders of Solidarity look forward to his June visit to Poland. They condemn the regime's "road of violence" and maintain that their movement is a "spiritual revolution" which aims to make Poland "a stable, democratic and law-abiding country, where human and national dignity will not be trampled".

Yesterday a government spokesman confirmed that the Pope had requested a general amnesty for political prisoners in his letter to the Polish authorities formally accepting the invitation to make a second Papal visit to his native Poland. The refusal to grant an amnesty may place the Pope in a difficult position, but it is the Polish authorities who are ashamed. The Pope will surely continue to speak out against wrongful imprisonment, whether in the Vatican or in Poland.

DANGEROUS PLACES

When a climber is killed or a swimmer or yachtsman drowns, that is a mishap, which is sad enough, when someone skilled with rocks or with water suffers the same fate in trying to effect a rescue, that is a sacrifice, which is felt to be a still greater loss. A tragedy like that of Mr Michael Rudall, who died sheltering an injured climber from falling rocks at the weekend initially evokes feelings of anger beside the admiration: what a waste of a brave man; someone must have blundered; it shouldn't be allowed.

Second thoughts modify these reactions, whose implications lay burdens on the consciences of those rescued or expedition leaders which may prove wholly undeserved when the facts are fully known. There are rules of prudence which it is irresponsible not to observe when venturing into dangerous places

– still more so when leading others who are less experienced. But it is the nature of dangerous places sometimes to catch all rational precautions unawares.

The more red tape is festooned over the mountains in the form of regulations to protect climbers, the less room is left for judgement. Lives might certainly be saved (some, not all) by restricting the high ground to those with official licences, imposing age limits, or announcing "the mountains are closed today" when snow is forecast. The Swiss authorities did in fact put the grim north face of the Eiger "out of bounds" for a period in the 1930s, but such restrictions could not be effectively enforced or even defined in Britain, where a morning's pleasant walk can be turned into a death-trap the same afternoon by a change in the weather.

Most mountain deaths are among the inexperienced or the obstinately rash, and training and publicity for the dangers are the best means of minimising casualties. Leaders of parties and those who appoint them have a special responsibility to ensure that knowledge and equipment are equal to foreseeable challenges. A disturbing effect of recent public spending cuts has been a sharp decline in numbers taking courses in this area, though there are signs of recovery this year. Over the last decade the number of people climbing or venturing on serious mountain walking in Britain has doubled, to about 800,000, while the number of deaths has remained fairly steady at about 40 a year. Each of those deaths is a tragedy, and no doubt some were avoidable; but it is a record that the climbing community need not be ashamed of.

Unquestioned role of the judges

From Mr A. T. H. Smith
Sir, Your Home Affairs Correspondent, Peter Evans, notes (April 26) the beginnings of "seismic changes" in our criminal justice process initiated because of doubts felt in Home Office circles about the efficacy of present forms of punishment. He reports one Home Office official as saying that the "most promising way forward is to question vigorously all proposals for new criminal offences".

One aspect of the criminalization process that is at present virtually unexamined from such questioning is the role of the judges. In theory, the criminal courts are expected to prefer the value of personal freedom when there is any doubt about how far the criminal law extends. The practice is rather different.

Recently, for example, the superior courts have held that the authorized possessor of a banker's card or credit card commits criminal deception if he or she exceeds the credit limit dishonestly, notwithstanding that the issuing house has a civil remedy for the recovery of the debt. They have also held that a person is "reckless" within the meaning of the Criminal Damage Act 1971 (and probably other statutes too) even though he did not appreciate that he was running a risk.

Parliament almost certainly did not mean the law to stretch so far. In both of these examples, there was genuine doubt about the scope of the criminal law, and in both it was resolved in favour of expanding the law.

One has considerable sympathy with the criminal courts, confronted as they are (at whatever remove) by the social activities of the anti-social. But in responding by extending the law, they may be not so much solving problems as creating the new ones of which Mr Evans writes.

Yours faithfully,
A. T. H. SMITH,
University of Durham,
Faculty of Law,
50 North Bailey, Durham.

Assembly line rebels

From Mr John Nye
Sir, Now there seems to be a truce at Cowley it is timely to probe the more fundamental causes of the problem. You report (Business News, April 27) the experiences of a Japanese assembly worker. Perhaps this indicates the paucity of *Times* reporters or indeed readers, who know from first hand the boredom of the assembly line.

I once spent six weeks as an injection moulder. The work rate is dictated by the machine, typically repeating every 45 seconds. Rarely does anything go wrong, when it does it is a welcome relief. There is no possibility of conversation and the monotony is broken only by occasional visits from the charge-hand and the tea break. Under such conditions one becomes introverted and detached from the work, which though not unenjoyable in this case is not conducive to quality or interest.

Of course a lot is done to automate such processes. While they still remain we must either accept and pay for the eruptions of frustration they cause or seek social solutions. Resigned submission is not an acceptable condition to expect from any human worker.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN NYE,
20 Court Road,
Tunbridge Wells,
Kent.

Under-age drinking

From Mr Graham P. McNally
Sir, I read with great dismay the article (April 25) by Frances Gibb, your Legal Affairs Correspondent, reporting a call by the justices' clerks for stricter legislation against under-age drinking.

I say dismay not because I disagree with the reason behind their decision, but because, once again, it is assumed that licences and their staff can be telephoned to determine a young person's age.

One could carry the clerks' demand to its logical conclusion and make the punishment for supplying alcohol to the under-age 20 years imprisonment, but it will not change the basic fact that until the United Kingdom issues a form of identity card, this law is impossible to enforce.

Yours faithfully,
G. McNALLY,
Managing Director,
Cornish Leisure World Ltd,
Carnaby Bay,
St Austell,
Cornwall,
April 25.

Mobile homes

From the Director of the National Consumer Council

Sir, On Thursday the remaining stages of the Mobile Homes Bill will be taken in the House of Commons. Attention will be focused upon a series of amendments to the Bill which have been brought forward by the Government. These will make significant changes to the Bill's structure so as to ensure that the rights intended for mobile home occupiers, as security of tenure and the right to sell their homes on site, will be available in practice.

For several months the National Consumer Council has been pressing for changes to the Bill along these lines and is therefore delighted that the Government has responded so positively to the reservations that were widely expressed about the original proposals.

One important point remains outstanding, however. If a site owner applies to a court for the termination of an occupier's agree-

Getty Trust's concern for visual arts

From the President and Chief Executive Officer of The J. Paul Getty Trust

Sir, Having read the two articles that Geraldine Norman wrote (February 15 and 16) as a consequence of her interview with me, I can well understand some of the unhappiness expressed in the letters to the Editor in response thereto (February 21, 28). I will not attempt to refute or correct the articles in detail but I will state several matters for clarification.

I made it clear from the outset of my interview with Mrs Norman, and adhered to it throughout the discussions, that I would not engage in any discussion of what the Getty had paid for any individual art object, and while she does not attribute any reference to the price of individual objects directly to me, the tenor of the article, as interpreted by other publications and individuals, left the impression that I had indeed talked about prices. Suffice it to say that most of her "guesstimates" are quite inaccurate and invariably on the high side by substantial margins.

I made the reference to the state of conservation in your country explicitly in the context of the very unfortunate condition of works of art in many private collections. I have very high regard for the quality and professionalism of conservation in Great Britain and would not, under any circumstances, be critical of it. Indeed, it is of the finest in the world. My concern is that adequate resources be made available to that talent to train conservators and to do much-needed work to preserve art objects in your country that are literally disintegrating.

It is in this context that the Getty will be devoting a substantial amount of resources in an effort to enhance the quality of conservation through the establishment of the J. Paul Getty Conservation Institute. This will be focused on facilitating exchange of the most current information on experience and techniques in conservation, the advancement of scientific enquiry into conservation and the advanced training of conservators.

Third-party issue

From Mr Philip Goldenberg
Sir, The comments both of yourself (leader, April 26) and of Mr Norman St John-Stevens (letter, April 30) on the supposed unconstitutionality of an Alliance "Prime Minister-designate" have been adequately answered by Mr Vernon Bogdanor (May 3).

Mr St John-Stevens, however, in the course of allowing his political partisanship to take precedence over his normal standards as a constitutional historian, suggested that, if a person invited by the Queen to form a government failed to secure a majority in the House of Commons (in effect by being defeated on the Queen's Speech), then that person would be entitled as of right to a dissolution.

There is no authority for Mr St John-Stevens' proposition. The two

I also described at length to Mrs Norman our activities in enhancing art scholarship throughout the world through the J. Paul Getty Center for the History of Art and the Humanities. The focus of the center will be on the enhancement of art scholarship in its larger context and in relationship to the other humanistic disciplines and, most significantly, through a massive effort to make existing art scholarship and research more readily available to art scholars wherever they may be.

This is an enormous, expensive and frontier-breaking effort. It is part of our sense of responsibility to make a significant and unique contribution to the field of the visual arts throughout the world. It does not have the self-serving cast she gave it.

Finally, I described our efforts to enhance the quality of education in the visual arts at the public education level.

We will indeed continue to build the J. Paul Getty Museum and its collection through the acquisition selectively of quality objects. We do not expect to become a large museum and we expect that a substantial portion of our resources over time will be applied against the other objectives I have already described. We are cautious in our acquisitions, and have a sense of responsibility for our impact on the art market in the interest of not wasting our own resources or those of others.

Whether I drink grapefruit juice or wear gold-rimmed glasses (indeed mine are silver, not gold) does little to lend substance or describe fairly the objectives and sense of responsibility of the Getty or its leadership in the field of the visual arts.

We at the Getty are prepared to be judged on our actions. We only request that they be fairly reported and interpreted.

Very truly yours,
HAROLD M. WILLIAMS,
The J. Paul Getty Trust,
1200 Century Park East,
Suite 2300,
Los Angeles,
California, USA,
April 22.

examples he cites arose respectively after the formation of a new government in mid-Parliament (Campbell-Bannerman) and following a constitutional crisis created by the House of Lords (Asquith).

Neither of them is comparable with the position which would arise if, following a general election, the Queen's nominee failed to secure a majority for the programme of his proposed government. In these circumstances, the right course, at least in the first instance, would be for the Queen to see if anybody else could form a government that could command that majority.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP GOLDBERG,
(Prospective Liberal/SDP Alliance Parliamentary candidate for Woking),
White Trees,
White Rose Lane,
Woking, Surrey,
May 3.

In Campion's steps?

From Mr Christopher Derrick
Sir, As an English Catholic, I find this matter of CND and Mr Bruce Kent gives me a curious sense of déjà vu.

We've been here before. In the reign of Elizabeth I, we were regarded as being politically suspect or worse. Were we not the allies and even the agents of a foreign tyranny, one that sought to extinguish the liberties of every true Protestant Englishman?

Many of us were executed as traitors on that pretext. In fact, they died for a straightforward moral principle: *raison d'état* does not justify the sin of schism. We honour those men and women as the "English martyrs".

Mrs Thatcher has not yet proposed to have Mr Kent hung.

In camera

From Brigadier G. A. Hardy

Sir, On Monday, April 25, you published a letter from Mr H. Justin Evans which expressed his displeasure at the thought of being televised when giving evidence to a select committee of the House of Commons. Having recently been televised when giving evidence with two colleagues to a select committee of the House of Lords, I thought you might like to hear the other side of the coin. None of us felt in any way inhibited by the television team, who carried out their task quite unobtrusively.

At one time the Chairman, Lord Shackleton, asked the team leader if they had nearly finished televising, to which came the reply: "No my Lord, the proceedings are really warming up". This was a very fair indication of the general atmosphere we experienced for more than two hours whilst giving evidence: frank, friendly, critical and forthright when necessary, contradictory amongst ourselves on occasions but at no time inhibited either by the presence of their Lordships or the cameras.

Add to this the dignity and good order which such a place and event warranted and surely you have precisely the communication required between Parliament and people which from time to time needs to be seen.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE HARDY,
Deputy Director & Keeper of the Map Room,
Royal Geographical Society,
Kensington Gore, SW7,
April 27.

drawn and quartered; nor is Philip II of Spain very similar to Comrade Andropov. But the new moral question is exactly parallel to the old one: does *raison d'état* justify the sin of genocide, in act or in conditional intention?

Catholic moral theology answers that question as clearly as it answered the earlier one. It will be interesting to see how we respond. How many will act as in the tradition of the English martyrs? How many will prefer to bend the knee to Caesar once again? And how many – too many, I fear – will find the question an embarrassing one and will try to have it fudged or hushed up?

Blessed English martyrs, pray for us! Yours sincerely,
CHRISTOPHER DERRICK,
25 Park Hill Road,
Wallington, Surrey.

warning up". This was a very fair indication of the general atmosphere we experienced for more than two hours whilst giving evidence: frank, friendly, critical and forthright when necessary, contradictory amongst ourselves on occasions but at no time inhibited either by the presence of their Lordships or the cameras.

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Royal Geographical Society,
Kensington Gore, SW7,
April 27.

Those who are familiar with the work of the county court know how important these discretions are. That is undoubtedly why the Law Society has also urged that the same safeguard should be available for mobile home occupiers.

Mobile homes are usually fixed structures in all but name. Their owner-occupiers are often elderly and in a poor position to look after their own interests. We are at a loss to understand why this small, but vulnerable group of residents should be denied the same safeguard as has been available for many years to leasees and to tenants.

There are few things more devastating to a family than the loss of the home. It is not too late for the Government to give the judges a residual discretion as to whether or not a mobile home agreement should be terminated.

Yours sincerely,
JEREMY MITCHELL, Director,
National Consumer Council,
18 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1,
May 30.

Milage no object in case of peril

From Mr Eric Korn

Sir, In his address to Congress, President Reagan illuminated the perils of the Central American conflict by pointing out that El Salvador is nearer to Texas than Texas is to Massachusetts; Nicaragua is as close to Miami as Miami is to Washington. This would seem to contain an implicit claim to a "security zone" around a state equivalent to that state's greatest internal dimension.

This is a particularly foolish claim to make if one is engaged in a global controversy with the Soviet Union and shows a particular insensitivity to the USA's allies. London is nearer to Lvov than Lvov is to Kazan; Rome is nearer to Odessa than Odessa is to Gorki; Kabul is closer to Tashkent than Tashkent is to anywhere you care to mention; for the matter of that, Los Angeles is closer to Anadyr, in easternmost Siberia, than that place is to Moscow, and the USSR's "sphere of influence" would include most of the planet except for South America, Southern Africa and Australasia.

Sir, a man's "front yard" does not include the house next door, no matter how large his property. A people's right to resist oppression is inalienable, whether in Warsaw or in Salvador.

Yours etc,
ERIC KORN,
51 Lady Margaret Road, NW5,
April 30.

Probation service

From Mrs P. A. Stowe

Sir, Re your article on April 26 regarding the probation officers' one day strike; as a serving probation officer who is not a member of NAO and who did not take part in the strike, I am writing to say how utterly offensive I found the contents therein.

I would like to point out that those probation officers belonging to NAO who withdrew their services on April 27 did so not for their own interests but because they are most concerned for the future quality of the probation service. Part of our service's strength is that it has always attracted both young graduates and mid-life career changers, thus bringing into the service a wide variety of skills and experiences.

The average reduction in trainees' salaries of £437 per annum must surely prohibit some potential applicants from undertaking training. Society generally should be concerned about the future quality of our service, so I fail to see how this can be described as a "narrow issue".

Additionally, I would point out that NAO has never instigated strike action before, and on this occasion notified all appropriate persons well in advance, and certainly in Surrey they went to great lengths to ensure that every probation office and court would be manned. My colleagues who took part lost a day's pay, plus incurring travelling expenses.

Where, therefore, is the self-righteousness you write of and how have my colleagues let down clients, courts and society? Yours faithfully,
PATRICIA A. STOWE,
45 Latham Road,
South Godstone,
Surrey,
April 28.

A friend of St Helena

From Mr Gilbert Martineau

Sir, With reference to the article c March 19, "Wind of change in Britain's forgotten Falklands", I wish to state that the author, Mr Michael Croft, Director of the National Youth Theatre, came to St Helena with a letter of introduction from a London friend, that I subsequently entertained him on several occasions and discussed with him the possibility of making a stage adaptation of my essay on Lord Byron, but that I did not give him an interview, especially on the subject of "change", development or local politics in general.

I therefore deny strongly the words attributed to me in relation with the future of the island. My feelings towards the people among whom I have lived for so long – of my own choice – are well known: I hold them in high esteem and am proud to be their friend, to the extent of considering myself as one of them.

Yours faithfully,
G. MARTINEAU
(French Consul, St Helena),
15 Rue du Cornou,
17500-Ars-en-Ré,
France,
April 19.

Gaining sanctuary

From Mr Douglas B. Hague

Sir, A friend of mine recently had her car stolen and it has not been recovered. Acting on my suggestion she placed an advertisement in the morning columns of a local paper, requesting that her briefcase, containing personal items and files on which she was working, be left in any church porch. This the thieves did.

Yours hopefully,
DOUGLAS B. HAGUE,
Maeclas,
Llanafan,
Aberystwyth, Dyfed

Out in the cold

From Mr Jeremy Isaacs

Sir, On a wet Bank holiday, thousands, including many visitors to London, found the museums and galleries shut. Why?

You faithfully,
JEREMY ISAACS,
64 Waverdon Avenue, W4,
May 3.

COURT CIRCULAR

HELP PO

Memorial service

Senior Tories salute Lord Boyd

do this and other vital work

Rescue Aid Council,
Place, London, W.1.

The envelope bears a photograph of the commissioner and a special hand stamp from the Isle of Man cancelling a postage stamp.

collected) after July 22, from the Salvation Army, 101 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4P 4EP. Orders should be placed by the end

Liverpool University Air Squadron held its annual dinner in the Officers' Mess, Altcar, last night. The guest of honour was Mr. Jerry Wiggan, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Armed

OBITUARY

LORD GEDDES OF EPSOM

Force for moderation within the TUC

Like many other union leaders of his time he detested communism and his "aggressive moderation" was often used to counter the Left. As the TUC's representative to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, and chairman of the confederation's

What he wanted to know was whether wage demands were really threatening the economic structure, or whether it was just "boss talk." It was typical of him that he sought more

He was a part-time member of London Transport Board, the Atomic Energy Authority, and the Electricity Council.

Geddes's interventions in the House of Lords, on the other hand, to which he was elevated as a life peer in 1958, were not frequent and he did not adapt himself happily to the procedures of that place. But with his wife Julia, whom he married in 1920, and his daughter as his companions whenever possible, his circle of friends and activities continued to grow even after retirement.

He is survived by both his wife and his daughter,

ADMIRAL ARTHUR D. STRUBLE

He brought with him two inestimable attributes; a wide knowledge of clinical radiology, and a flair for administration

His dedication to this work was recognised when he was made CMG in 1968.

PROFESSOR SIR HOWARD MIDDLEMISS

He brought with him two inestimable attributes; a wide knowledge of clinical radiology, and a flair for administration

His dedication to this work was recognised when he was made CMG in 1968.

MR. LEONARD KIRSCHEN

Back in Romania at the end of the war, he was appointed

SEÑOR

Señor Ernesto de la Guardia,

The brutalities, the degradation to animal level, through

ERNESTO de la GU

Panamanian Ambassador in

SEÑOR ERNESTO de la GUARDIA

was a turbulent one in which pressures mounted against the continuing American presence in the Canal Zone, leading to riots in November, 1959; and de la Guardia alleged on more than one occasion that attempts were being made to overthrow his government by force.

In April, 1959, Dame Margot Fonteyn, the wife of Senor

Later that same month a boatload of armed men, most of them Cuban, landed on Panama's Atlantic coast in an attempt to overthrow the government. De la Guardia appealed for help to the Organization of American States, where he was given a sympathetic hearing, and

Canterbury to welcome Mother Teresa

The last day of her trip will be devoted to meetings with the Church of England. After Canterbury, Mother Teresa will meet the Central staff of the Church of England at Church House, Westminster. There she will be greeted by the Secretary-General of the General Synod, Mr Derek Pattinson, and will give an address.

Teresa, aged 72, head of the Calcutta-based Catholic Missions of Charity, to Canterbury, which he described as "one of the fountain heads of Catholic christianity in these islands".

INNER TEMPLE
S J Foster, B A (Pembroke Coll, Cambridge)
Janet Y Fairhurst, LL B (London School of
Economics) J H Buckmore, LL B (London
Univ.)

MIDDLE TEMPLE
Miss Laetitia L Lange-Reynolds, B A (Queens
Mary Coll, London Univ) Dip L (Oxford)
London Poly S J Hobbs, B A (Univ of
Kent) Dip L (City Univ) Miss Joanne
Farnsworth, B A (Univ of Southampton)
LL B (Univ of Oxford) Miss Shelley A
Vennart, LL B (London Univ) Col
Buckingham N D C Bull, LL B (Lancaster Univ)
(Univ Coll at Buckingham).

GRAY'S INN

M S Stone, B.A. (Univ of Rhodes) M A
Oxford; A J Brown, LL B (Liverpool)
Univ N Westwood, B A (Liverpool Poly)
Rena E Smith, Georgia M Storey, LL B
Manchester Univ; B M Miller, A P Wilson
LL B (Liverpool Univ); L M P C Arce, B A
A Trinity Coll, Dublin; P P W Mifsud, B A
(City of London Poly); D J M Birchall, LL B
Queens University, Belfast; A Namasu

Service dinner
Liverpool University Air Squadron
Liverpool University Air Squadron
held its annual dinner in the
Officers' Mess, Altcar, last night.
The guest of honour was Mr. Jerry
Wiggin, Parliamentary Under-
Secretary of State for the Armed

Reception

The American Ambassador and Mrs. Louis, Sir Philip and the Hon. Lady Adams, Chief Justice Anson, Sir Mordaunt and Lady Bland, Sir John and Lady Bland, Sir Brimicombe, Mr. Anthony Buck, Q.C. and Lord and Lady Charters of Armitage, Sir Douglas and Lady Dods-Parker, Dame Adelaide Drummond, Sir John and Lady Fort, Sir Henry Fowler, Dame Mary Green, Lord Greenhill of Harrow, Sir Robt. and Lady Harcourt, Sir John and Lady Harcourt, Sir Henry, Lord Lever of Manchester, Mr. Alexander Macdonald, Dame Rosemary

Murray. Sir Miss
Professor Randolph C
Lord and Lady St
Smith. Sir Rose and

1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 26

This silk commemorative cover has been commissioned by the Salvation Army to mark the hundredth birthday of Commissioner Catherine Bramwell-Booth on July 20.. The envelope bears a photograph of the commissioner and a special hand stamp from the Isle of Man cancelling a postage stamp.

Birthdays today

Abingdon School

Founder's Day will be celebrated on Saturday, May 21, 1983. The preacher at the service, which will take place in St Helen's Church, Abingdon, at 11.15 am, will be Sir James Cobban, headmaster 1947-70. The band of The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment will Beat Retreat at 4.30 pm. OA's will attend the Old Abingdon

wishing to attend the Old
nian annual reception and
to be held at the school than

aged and chronic sick.

ACC do this and other vital work.

NAME, ADDRESS, CITY:

HELP the aged and chronic sick.

HELP recently widowed women with children.

HELP with grants for teaching and training young people.

HELP **PCAC** do this and other vital work

Professional Classes Aid Council,
10 St. Christopher's Place, London, W.1.

Investment
and
FinanceCity Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

City Office
200 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8EZ
Telephone 01-477 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 692.1 down 3.2
 FT 100: 81.73 up 0.18
 FT All Share: 436.85 down 2.44
 Bargains: 19,566
 Trailing US\$ Index: 171.2 down 0.8
 Nikkei Dow Jones
 Index closed
 Hongkong: Hang Seng Index
 1003.15 up 8.72
 New York: Dow Jones Average
 (latest) 1198.92 down 4.41

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
 Sterling \$1.5785 up 1.80pts
 Index 85.0 up 0.8
 DM 3.88 up .325
 FF 11.8675 up .1475
 Yen 375 up 3.75
Dollar
 Index 122.6 unchanged
 DM 2.4575 down 67pts
Gold
 \$433.25 up \$4.25
NEW YORK LATEST
 Gold \$433.50
 Sterling \$1.5790

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
 Base rates 10
 3 month Interbank 10 1/4-10 1/2
Euro-currency rates:
 3 month dollar 8 1/4-8 1/2
 3 month DM 5 1/4-5 1/2
 3 month FF 4 1/4-4 1/2
ECB Fixed Rate Sterling
 Export Finance Scheme IV
 Average reference rate for
 interest period March 2 to April
 5, 1983 inclusive: 10.974 per
 cent.

PRICE CHANGES

Anvil 53p up 10p
 Davies & New 215p up 25p
 Mountleigh 190p up 22p
 Barrow Hep 32p up 5p
 C&S 12p up 1p
 C&S 12p up 1p
 Sangers 40p down 2p
 CH Bailey 10.5p down 1p
 J Neill 23.3p down 3p
 Total 35p down 2.5p
 Exco 593p down 40p

TODAY

Interests: Tiger Oats &
 National Milling, Wemyss.
Finals: Electra Invest, Folke
 (John) Hefo, Gerrard &
 National, London Utd Invests,
 Marks and Spencer, Marshall's
 Universal, Millets, Laisure,
 John Mowlem, Nurdin & Pea-
 cock, Oceana Development
 Invest, P and O, Smith St
 Aubyn, J Walker, Warrford
 Invests.
Economic statistics: UK
 official reserves (April), capital
 issues and redemptions (dur-
 ing April), advance energy
 statistics (March).

More funds for
Volvo Car BV

Volvo Car BV is to get a
 second round of aid totaling
 guilder 618m (140m) from the
 Dutch Government and AB
 Volvo of Sweden to develop a
 new car for the second half of
 the eighties.
 The aid, covering 1985/86,
 will consist of guilder 480m
 from the Dutch Government,
 which owns 70 per cent of the
 company, and guilder 138m
 from AB Volvo, which owns the
 remainder.
 In May 1981 a rescue package
 was put together to save Volvo
 Car BV. The Dutch Govern-
 ment injected guilder 250m for
 1981/83 and AB Volvo pledged
 guilder 95m for the period.

INVESTMENT PLAN: Mr
 Robert Maxwell, chairman of
 the British Printing and Com-
 munication Corporation, says
 that the company is planning to
 invest £33m in new plant and
 equipment within the next 12
 months. In his annual state-
 ment to shareholders published
 yesterday Mr Maxwell says that
 the company expects to realize
 substantially more from prop-
 erty sales than their £14m book
 value.

£16m VENTURE: Cour-
 tauld's, the United Kingdom
 textile company, has joined a
 £16m venture to manufacture
 carbon fibre products for the
 American aerospace and de-
 fence industry. It has joined
 forces with C. H. Dexter, of
 Connecticut, in a new company,
 Hysol Grafil, which will use
 polymer and acrylic fibres
 produced at Courtauld's Grims-
 by plant.

MR DAVID HILL: A recent
 report mentioned the action for
 wrongful dismissal by Mr
 David Hill, the underwriter,
 against Minet Holdings follow-
 ing an admission he had
 benefited from reinsurance
 arrangements. Mr Hill seeks
 to make it clear that he has
 not admitted he knowingly
 or unlawfully benefited from
 any such reinsurance arrange-
 ments.

Wall St
falls
through
1,200

New York (AP-Dow Jones)—
 Wall Street stocks continued
 falling in moderate trading
 yesterday and the Dow Jones
 industrial average dropped
 below 1,200 — down 9 points to
 1,195.

Declines led gains by a 9-5
 margin.
 Mr Robert Mintz, vice-presi-
 dent for research at Phillips
 Appel Walden, said that "While
 a correction is definitely on the
 cards, this isn't the time for a 10
 per cent to 15 per cent pull-
 back."

American Express was 64,
 down 1 1/2; Atlantic Rich-
 field 45 1/2, unchanged; Motro-
 na 105 1/2, down 1 1/2; Inter-
 national Business Machines
 114, unchanged; International
 Telephone 40, down 3/4; J C
 Penney 63 1/2, down 1/4; Wool-
 worth 32 1/2, up 1/4; Control
 Data 46 1/2, off 1/2; Teledyne 144 1/2,
 down 1 1/2; and General Dynam-
 ics 49 1/2, down 1 1/2.

General Electric was un-
 changed at 109; General Motors
 down 1/4 at 67 1/2; Procter &
 Gamble down 1/2 at 59 1/2; Mer-
 cill Lynch down 3/4 at 92 1/2;
 Lockheed down 3/4 at 109 1/2.

Private
growth call
to Asia

Manila (Reuters) — Develop-
 ing countries in Asia should
 concentrate on the private
 sector for faster growth rates,
 Mr Donald Regan, US Treasury
 Secretary, said yesterday.

He told an international
 symposium on development
 strategies in Asia there were
 many excellent examples in the
 region of economies that were
 predominantly market-orien-
 ted, while he would urge
 leaders of other Asian countries
 to re-examine the role of their
 public sector.

He told the symposium on
 the eve of the annual Asian
 Development Bank board's
 meeting: "In addition, I propose
 the Asian Development Bank
 host a regional symposium on
 the practical steps necessary to
 transfer the focus of economic
 activity from the public to the
 private sector."

He said it was tempting for
 developing countries to increase
 import duties to help balance
 budgets in deficit and provide
 protection for struggling domes-
 tic industries. "Fortunately,
 much of that temptation has
 been resisted," he added.

Mr Regan cited South Korea
 and Taiwan as examples
 abounding in solid export-led
 growth.

He said there were many
 pressure points where govern-
 ment help could be needed,
 including a more forthcoming
 investment code and an export
 agency that eliminated un-
 necessary bureaucratic hurdles.

He criticized subsidies on
 domestic charges for public
 utilities which, he said, drained
 government budgets and en-
 couraged misallocation of re-
 sources that could be used to
 stimulate new investment in
 export-oriented industries.

● The Asian Development
 Bank faces the highly political
 issue of Chinese membership
 when it opens its 16th annual
 meeting in Manila today ac-
 cording to bank sources. China
 has been pressing for mem-
 bership since late last year,
 insisting at the same time that
 Taiwan, a founder member,
 should be expelled.

Foseco's US hopes hinge on steel

By Our Financial Staff
 Foseco Minsep, the metallur-
 gical and specialist chemicals
 company, is the latest United
 Kingdom engineering group to
 feel the brunt of the 1982
 recession in the US.

A 40 per cent fall in the US
 market for steel products last
 year was responsible for a near
 30 per cent decrease in Foseco's
 metallurgical business there and
 helped push this area of trading
 into the red by the end of the year.

Tough action has been taken
 to curb losses and should mean
 a return to profits in the US in

**By Jonathan Davis,
 Energy Correspondent**

The National Coal Board lost
 more than £100m in the
 financial year just ended, and
 expects to record an even
 greater loss this year, despite
 government grants of £340m.

As a result, the board's
 workforce of 202,000 is ex-
 pected to be cut by even more
 than last year, when 10,170 jobs
 were shed. Mr Norman Siddall,
 retiring coal board chairman,
 said yesterday.

The closure of uneconomic
 pits will also be accelerated,
 he said. As many as 15 pits and
 15,000 miners' jobs could go
 this year, although Mr
 Siddall said he hoped that the
 inevitable slimming-down
 could be achieved by voluntary
 redundancy for at least the next
 year.

At the annual press confer-
 ence reviewing the previous
 year's activities, Mr Siddall and
 his colleagues made no attempt
 to play down the financial
 problems facing the industry,
 which continues to produce
 more coal than it can sell.

In the 1982/83 financial year,

Record stockpiles as demand falls by 7m tonnes

Coal Board loses more than £100m
and expects worse to come

BRITAIN'S COAL ULT			
Disposals (sales)	1981/2	1982/3	1983/4 (est)
	million tonnes		
Power stations	82.0	86.2	80.9
Coking coal	8.4	7.6	7.3
Domestic	8.0	7.3	7.3
Industrial	8.7	8.8	9.2
Others	3.7	3.5	3.6
Exports	9.4	7.1	7.5
Total disposals	120.2	120.6	116.3
(Inc. to stock)			
Total UK demand	117.0	110	110/113
(Inc. imports)	123.3	119.7	121.5
NCB output			

Source: National Coal Board

the coal board produced 119.7
 million tonnes of output pro-
 jected at 121.5 million
 tonnes. Power stations' demand
 for coal is likely to fall, and
 while exports are expected to be
 maintained, at least 3 to 4
 million tonnes of coal will already
 inevitably go into the already
 record stockpiles.

Mr Malcolm Edwards, the
 coal board's sales director, said
 that there were tentative signs
 that demand was beginning to
 pick up. "If we can get some

to remain at between 110 and
 113 million tonnes, with output
 projected at 121.5 million
 tonnes. Power stations' demand
 for coal is likely to fall, and
 while exports are expected to be
 maintained, at least 3 to 4
 million tonnes of coal will already
 inevitably go into the already
 record stockpiles.

Mr Malcolm Edwards, the
 coal board's sales director, said
 that there were tentative signs
 that demand was beginning to
 pick up. "If we can get some



Siddall: inevitable

growth in the economy, then we
 can probably say we have
 weathered the worst slide in
 energy usage that any of us have
 ever seen," he said.

Despite the financial prob-
 lems, the board stayed £11m
 inside its Government-imposed
 cash limit of £962m last year.

Mr Siddall, who will be
 succeeded in September by Mr
 Ian MacGregor, said he ex-
 pected more pit closures this
 year than last year, when six
 collieries were closed and

another two were merged.
 Productivity continues to
 improve, with output per
 man-shift at the coal face up by
 5.6 per cent last year, with
 particularly strong gains since
 the autumn. Absenteeism was
 down to 10.4 per cent, its lowest
 level since nationalization in
 the 1940s.

For the past two years, the
 coal board's costs have gone up
 by more than the price it has
 obtained for its coal, and more-
 over the rate of inflation.
 Without last year's industrial
 disputes, costs could have been
 kept to the rate of inflation.

The board said that industrial
 action cost £70m in lost
 revenue and the difficult
 market conditions meant that it
 earned £55m less than it had
 forecast at the beginning of the
 year.

According to the Department
 of Energy, provisional figures
 for Government grants to the
 industry in 1982/3 were £516m,
 of which £386m was deficit
 grant and the rest social grants.
 In 1983/4 grants are estimated
 to total £540m, including deficit
 grant of £410m.

Lawson
underlines
oil aim

By Our Financial Correspondent

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Energy
 Secretary, held talks yesterday
 with Sheikh Ahmed Zaki
 Yamani, the Saudi Arabian oil
 minister, on the second leg of
 his tour of key oil producing
 states in the Gulf.

Before he left Kuwait for
 Riyadh, Mr Lawson said that
 Britain would "do its utmost"
 to protect stability in the world oil
 markets. Britain, he said,
 "shares with the Government of
 Kuwait a strong desire to
 encourage oil market stability
 and avoid large price gyrations."

"Within the limits of its
 influence, the British Govern-
 ment is determined to do
 everything possible to discour-
 age violent fluctuations in the oil
 markets." He was repeating the
 line that has become official
 British policy since the Organi-
 zation of Petroleum Exporting
 Countries pricing agreement
 was reached in March.

Mr Lawson was also quoted
 as saying that Britain's North
 Sea output was running at 2.1
 million barrels a day. The
 Government's public statements
 that North Sea output was
 likely to be flat this year has
 already surprised industry ana-
 lysts expecting production to
 rise.

Iraq contract hits
French Kier profit

By Andrew Cornelius

A last-minute provision of
 £3.8m against problems en-
 countered with a road building
 contract in Iraq held back
 pretax profit growth for 1982 at
 French Kier Holdings, the civil
 engineering and construction
 group.

Announcing a 10 per cent
 increase in pretax profits to
 £12.4m last year compared with
 1981, Mr John Mott, the
 chairman, said that the group
 had performed satisfactorily in
 all its main markets with the
 exception of Iraq. He said that
 the £3.8m extraordinary provi-
 sion was made before publica-
 tion of the 1982 results, when
 the Iraqi government indicated
 that it would be unable to make
 foreign currency payments to

French Kier Holdings
 Year to 31.12.82
 Pretax profit £12.4m (£11.3m)
 Stated earnings 15.3p (16.1p)
 Turnover £227m (£237m)
 Net dividend 3.8p making 4.85p
 (4.25p)
 Share price 125p down 3.5p Yield
 5.3%

French Kier and its Kuwaiti
 partner, which were due for
 work on the £100m contract to
 build the Baghdad-Abu Ghraib
 expressway.

French Kier has now stopped
 all work on the expressway
 while negotiations continue.

The group benefited else-
 where from an 8 per cent
 increase in turnover to £257m.
 The board recommended the
 payment of an increased final
 dividend of 3.6p, making 4.85p

BAT seeks new areas

By Our Financial Staff

BAT Industries is continuing
 to look for new areas
 of its existing product areas.

Mr Patrick Sheehy, BAT's
 shareholders in the annual
 report, published yesterday:
 "Because of the diversity of our
 businesses we are confident in
 our growth for the foreseeable
 future. However, we recognize
 that it would be unrealistic to
 assume that such growth in all

our areas of activity will
 continue forever."

New investment areas will
 concentrate on "fast moving
 consumer goods and services
 rather than on heavy industry
 or development of high tech-
 nology," according to Mr
 Sheehy. He emphasizes that
 the company is not under pres-
 sure to accelerate its diversifi-
 cation programme, nor is the
 group looking to enter a wide
 variety of new industries.

Managers buy out stores

By Our Financial Staff

The management of House of
 Clydesdale, the electrical stores
 group, has brought the company
 for £30m from the owners,
 Lloyds & Scottish finance
 company.

The deal involves 100 electri-
 cal and music stores, plus a
 number of other companies
 which were not part of House of
 Clydesdale.

Mr Alan Pirie, managing
 director of the new group, and
 four colleagues contributed
 £400,000. The balance was
 provided by a consortium of 10
 financial institutions brought
 together by Ronald McNeill and

Company, an Edinburgh mer-
 chant bank.

The institutions, which in-
 clude S.G. Warburg, Scottish
 Amicable, London & Manches-
 ter Insurance and Standard Life
 Assurance, have taken stakes of
 up to 10 per cent each in the
 new company, which will have
 a turnover of about £45m this
 year. It employs 1,100 people.

Sir Kenneth Alexander, a
 former chairman of both Govan
 Shipbuilders and the Highlands
 and Islands Development
 Board, is to be non-executive
 chairman of the newly-indepen-
 dent Clydesdale stores group.

Foseco's US hopes hinge on steel

By Our Financial Staff
 Foseco Minsep, the metallur-
 gical and specialist chemicals
 company, is the latest United
 Kingdom engineering group to
 feel the brunt of the 1982
 recession in the US.

A 40 per cent fall in the US
 market for steel products last
 year was responsible for a near
 30 per cent decrease in Foseco's
 metallurgical business there and
 helped push this area of trading
 into the red by the end of the year.

Tough action has been taken
 to curb losses and should mean
 a return to profits in the US in

and staffing in other areas also
 helped contribute towards
 extraordinary costs of £12.1m
 during the year. Included in the
 extraordinary items are the losses
 incurred in disposing of the
 remaining drilling and service
 operations of the Unicorn
 grinding wheel subsidiary and a
 reorganization of manufacturing
 activities in Japan.

The strongest contribution to
 group turnover of £357m,
 against £378m the previous
 year, came from the Fosroc
 division which specializes in
 chemicals for the construction
 and timber industries.

Market expects record figure to double

Hawley lifts profits by 88 pc

By Michael Clark

Mr Michael Ashcroft, the
 entrepreneur who took over the
 reins at Hawley Group, the
 security to building products
 company, appears to have got
 his sums right.

Full-year figures for the
 ending December, 1982, show
 an 87.6 per cent jump in pretax
 profits to a record £5.5m. This
 was achieved on an increase in
 turnover from £38m to £56.6m.

The bulk of Hawley's profits
 came from the contribution of
 its numerous publicly-quoted
 subsidiaries. Despite the 3p fall
 in the share price to 176p, the
 figures appear to have gripped
 the market's imagination. Ana-
 lysts are talking of pretax profits
 in the present year of between
 £10m and £11.5m.

The bulk of the improvement
 appears to have come from the
 group's 60 per cent stake in
 Electro-Protective Corporation



Ashcroft: sums right

of the US and its 89 per cent
 stake in Keen & Scott, which
 recently gained control of
 Alpine Holdings, the double-
 glazing company.

Further rationalization, good-
 will write-offs and new acqui-
 sitions have bumped up extra-
 ordinary items from £1.4m to
 £2.5m, but the tax charge
 remains low. It was up from
 only £276,000 to £298,000 —
 more than £600,000 of which
 accounts for advance corpora-
 tion tax on dividends.

Meanwhile, the net asset value
 is shown to have leapt from 50p
 to 143.2, after the use in the
 market values of Electro-Protec-
 tive and Keen & Scott. That
 figure has now been upgraded to
 201p in the present year.

Defending the steep rise, Mr
 Ashcroft maintains that the
 asset base of most service
 companies in the service indus-
 try is low. "The figure is
 calculated by the underlying
 value of quoted subsidiaries.
 We are buying earnings, not
 assets," he said.

Extremely strong
balance sheet...
exciting opportunities
for development.



Thomas N. Risk, Governor

SALIENT FEATURES from the Annual Report

- * Group pre-tax profit decreased by 2.1%.
- * Dividend increased by 14%.
- * Free capital ratio extremely strong.
- * Balance Sheet shows total resources 22% up on previous year.
- * First UK clearing bank to operate an electronic 'home-banking' system.
- * North West Securities performed well within Finance Houses sector.
- * Merchant Banking arm, British Linen Bank, profit up 18%.
- * Many opportunities for development — in the forefront of innovation.



BANK OF SCOTLAND

"...the Bank..." a British bank based in Edinburgh.

Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts may be obtained from Bank of Scotland, Public Affairs Department, The Mound, Edinburgh EH1 1YZ

City Comment

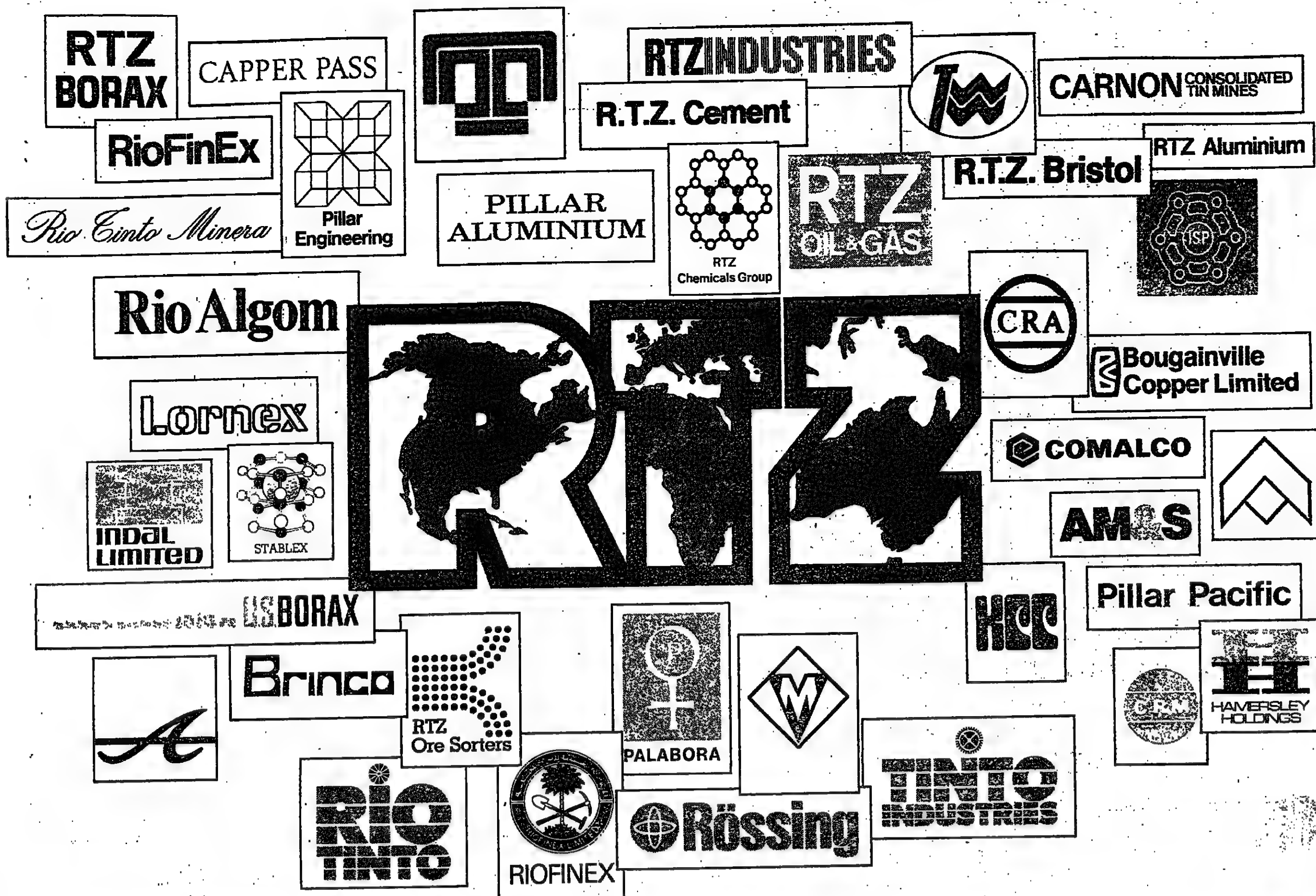
Pension
funds look
to futures

After a difficult beginning,
 the London Financial
 Futures market is making
 headway. Yesterday, the
 Treasury announced that it
 is considering allowing
 pension funds to use the
 market on the same tax
 exempt basis that is al-
 lowed for their normal
 dealings. This, coupled
 with reports that the
 Building Societies Associa-
 tion is looking closely at
 the use its members could
 make of the market should
 they be allowed to deal in
 it, suggests that at last the
 opportunities presented by
 financial futures are be-
 ginning to be appreciated in
 the investment community.

Of the two develop-
 ments, the pension fund
 initiative is the more
 significant and the willing-
 ness of the Government to
 consider amending legisla-
 tion in time for the
 current finance bill owes
 much to the skilled lobby-
 ing of Mr Dennis, of the
 Post Office Pension Fund,
 on behalf of the industry.

The Government still
 has to concede the central
 principle, however, that
 pension funds should be
 allowed to use the market.
 For it to do so implies
 overdue recognition that
 financial futures are a
 serious investment vehicle.

It is therefore a decision
 of more than usual impor-
 tance. The pension funds
 now account for a third of
 United Kingdom invest-
 ment and with their back-
 ing, the London Inter-
 national Financial Futures
 Exchange Liffe would have
 the necessary support in
 the City to enable it to
 develop new products and
 be innovative on a global
 scale. This in turn will
 make it much easier for
 London to remain competi-
 tive with the United States
 as the world's leading
 financial centre, offering
 the most sophisticated
 financial products avail-
 able.



'Our group is fortunately well spread both geographically and by product

Results

Our results this year must be looked at against a background of metal prices at their lowest real level since before the war, with many mines operating at a loss.

Our two largest investments abroad in Australia and Canada have been through a most difficult time, the recession hitting them hard; Australia in particular had for a long time an unrealistic exchange rate.

In Zimbabwe the Empress mine regrettably, but with Government agreement, has now been closed and RTZ has given Z\$750,000 to assist with a relocation and rehabilitation programme for former employees.

In Spain, Rio Tinto Minera showed a loss reflecting high operating costs and lower metal prices.

There is quite a bit of good news to report.

The Borax mine in California again produced excellent results. In Southern Africa both Rössing Uranium and Palabora made very satisfactory profits.

Most surprising in the present economic climate was the performance of our subsidiaries in this country at a time when British industry was suffering from the deepest recession since the 1930s. These included not only our newly acquired cement interests from Tunnel and Ward but also the Pillar Aluminium and Pillar Engineering groups.

Our profits are very slightly up on 1981 - better than appeared possible at the half year. Part of the improvement is naturally due to the recent weakening of the pound and part to the containment of unit costs. I believe shareholders will feel reasonably satisfied that the diverse activities of the RTZ Group have stood us in good stead during a very difficult year.

Long term demand for metals

Although the drop in demand for most metals has generally been much less than in 1974-75, this latest recession has been more prolonged than in any period since the early 1930s. Furthermore, this setback occurred after much slower growth than in the early 1970s; in some metals demand has never regained the heights then scaled.

Although the industrial countries now appear to be recovering, their demand for metals may not pick up as rapidly as in the past. Fabricators today emphasise materials conservation and miniaturisation. Substitution is a continuous and partly reversible process, but recent innovations may have hastened the switch from traditional methods.

Group results in brief	1982	1981
Group sales revenue	£3,680.4m	£3,020.7m
Operating profit	403.3m	349.9m
Profit before tax	341.0m	348.1m
Profit after tax	173.1m	173.6m
Net attributable profit	103.5m	102.3m
Earnings per ord. share	39.62p	40.42p
Dividends per ord. share		
Interim—paid	5.5p	5.5p
Final—proposed	10.5p	10.5p

These factors do not mean that total demand for individual metals will decline over the next decade but average growth rates are likely to be slower than so far experienced.

Mining and the Third World

It has now become clear that large scale mines such as Bougainville are unlikely to be developed over the next few years. The decision not to proceed with the Cerro Colorado development in Panama was taken after considerable study and demonstrates the problems involved for third world countries in developing new resources. International mining companies make a major contribution, emphasising the commercial realities of mineral development, by bringing together financial, technical and managerial expertise that these countries can seldom obtain elsewhere.

Their involvement greatly increases the likely success of new mineral development with substantial economic benefits to the host countries. Among these are higher overseas earnings, greater employment opportunities and a considerable injection of money into the economy. For local people there is the prospect of higher standards of living and greater opportunities for training, acquiring new skills and a wider education.

The Outlook

There are mounting indications that 1983's economic performance will improve on the year's earlier modest predictions. The road to an economic recovery that is broadly based enough to ensure a sustained improvement in metal prices remains strewn with potential obstacles, but at least the road now points in the right direction.

In anticipation of economic recovery, the LME prices of some metals, such as aluminium and copper, rose in January in sterling and dollar terms. Currency unrest and a spillover from speculation in precious metals contributed to the increases. Not all metals benefited and this emphasises the fragility of the revival. Prices are still at low levels in real terms, but historically and also relative to the costs of efficient mines.

On the cost side, weakening oil prices could be beneficial; other costs are also likely to rise more slowly and lower interest rates will help reduce financing costs.

In short, the signals for profits may have changed to amber, but they are not yet green. We may well have to wait until 1984 before any worthwhile recovery in the world economy comes through to those of us who provide raw materials.

Anthony Tinker
Chairman

If you would like a copy of the RTZ annual report including Sir Anthony's full statement please write to: Group Public Affairs Department, 6 St. James's Square, London SW1Y 4LD. Fact sheets on three specific aspects of the corporation's activities will be available from 26th May, 1983.

Source of each £1 of RTZ 1982 profits



RTZ

The Rio Tinto-Zinc Corporation PLC

مركز من رصاص

Trading stamps may return

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Trading stamps, linked exclusively to package holidays, could be back soon in a wide range of high street retailers and petrol stations.

The scheme is being put together by Holiday Stamps which has reached an agreement in principle on taking stamp books against the cost of holidays with Wakefield Fortuna, one of the top three travel agency chains.

Mr Geoff Corbett, Wakefield's managing director, said: "It is a good scheme with a minimal cost. It will be surprising if other travel agents do not take up the idea."

But the stamp scheme could cause a row within the Association of British Travel Agents, the trade body for travel agents and tour operators.

ABTA has not given its blessing to the stamp scheme although the Wakefield move could mean that there will be further discussions in ABTA about it. There has been opposition within ABTA to the idea of trading stamps being used as a promotional tool because the trading margin taken by a stamp company would bite into the already tight margins on which travel agents operate.

"Behind the stamps scheme is Mr David Price, the Holiday

Stamps chairman, who was involved in Greenfield stamp operations at the height of their popularity.

Mr Price has put his idea to some of the big multiple grocery chains but would not comment on the possible prospect of Tesco Stores taking up the idea.

It was Tesco's dropping of Greenfield stamps which led to the decline of trading stamps as a promotional tool in Britain.

A book of the holiday stamps which would be issued by retailers with the purchase of their goods would probably be worth about £8 on redemption against the cost of a package holiday.

Foreign blow for Tootal recovery

INVESTOR'S NOTEBOOK • edited by Sandy McLachlan

Tootal Group
Year to 31.1.83
Pretax profit £14.9m (£14.8m)
Stated earnings 5.3p (5.2p)
Turnover £401m (£418m)
Net final dividend 1.25p, making 2.35p (same)
Share price 35½p, down 2p. Yield 9.5%
Dividend payable 4.7.83.

Just as Tootal began to see some pay-off from retrenchment in the United Kingdom, its overseas operations in South Africa, America and Australia have been hit by recession.

Consequently, a sharp recovery in domestic profits has been broadly offset by a downturn overseas.

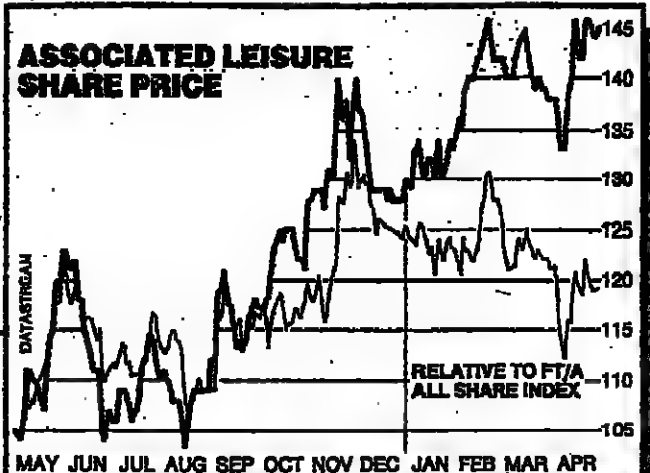
Pretax profits were barely changed at £14.9m, although the United Kingdom's tax regime has ensured a much lower group tax charge, thus earnings per share have risen from 3.2p to 5.3p.

After providing for £1.9m of extraordinary items compared with £26m the previous year, and paying an unchanged dividend, Tootal has also managed to transfer £3.3m to reserves. The previous year there was a £24.9m deficit at the bottom line.

In the United Kingdom, Tootal's two-year strategy of cutting out loss-makers and concentrating on more specialised areas in the textile and clothing industry has led to a near doubling of British trading profits from £8.6m to £15.8m, with about half the improvement due to loss-elimination.

In particular, the clothing division, which is a big Marks & Spencer supplier, recovered strongly last year. And while there are still problems in the United Kingdom, Tootal is confident that the existing operations have a future.

Arguable, Tootal should have reduced some of the far overseas. However it could not have foreseen that the Australian authorities would block the £24m sale of its 49.9 per cent stake in Bradmill Industries. However it is now taking action. The top executives of both the American and South African operations have been removed and numbers em-



ployed overseas fell 5,000 to 23,000 last year.

Although Tootal still has a large amount of capital tied up in Bradmill, it cut debt by £9m last year (£18m before exchange rate movements) to £60m, which is no mean achievement. This combined with the boost to reserves from retained profits and currency movements has cut the debt equity ratio from 60 to 48 per cent.

This improvement in the balance sheet adds to the attractions of the 9.5 per cent yield, even though trading prospects this year scarcely look exciting. The steps taken in America and South Africa could help to boost profits by a couple of million to about £17m this year. Beyond that Tootal needs some 'turn of demand' and that has not appeared yet.

Associated Leisure

Associated Leisure
42 weeks to 2.1.83
Pretax profit £5.52m (£3.76m)
Stated earnings 10.83p (9.36p)
Turnover £48.23m (£42.8m)
Net final dividend 3p making 5p.
Share price 145p, up 1p. Yield 4.9%.

The acquisition a year ago by Associated Leisure of Smiths Happiness Spencers, the coach holiday business, has cast a

spanner in the works of preparing the group's year end results.

A change in the group's year end to take account of the seasonal nature of the holiday business has left pretax profit for the 42 weeks to January 2 at £5.52m, against £3.76m for the year to March 1982.

Profits for calendar 1982, taking account of a full year from SHS, would have been £6.3m to leave earnings per share after a 46 per cent charge of 12.48p.

There will continue to be slight bias in the group profits now that it has a holiday business, with a 45 to 55 per cent split in favour of the second half. The dividend, too, is complicated by the change of year end. The recommended final payout of 3p per share would have been 4.2p if the group had been reporting for a full 52-week period, the board says. This would have increased the total dividend by 12.7 per cent, to leave the company's shares selling on a yield of 6.1 per cent.

Almost all the improvement in profits last year came from SHS, which is turning out to be an exceptionally adroit purchase for Associated. After a slight decline in volume for calendar 1982, bookings so far this year are up 5 per cent and are expected to finish the season that far ahead. This, coupled with an average price increase

of 5 per cent, will push the company's profits nicely ahead by this calendar year end.

The clouds all appear to be over the group's traditional fruit machines business, where last October's swinging duty increase helped to push the size of the amusement machines market down 10 per cent last year.

Associated, however, claims to have minimized the effect of this by rationalizing its product range and geographical distribution and is looking to more than maintain last year's trading profits of £3.3 in 1983.

The gaming Board is expected at least to double the £1 minimum cash payout per machine towards the end of this year. Experience shows that an improvement in the payout dramatically improves the take from the machine and, therefore, the rental charge.

With these factors working for the group, the 4.9 per cent yield is better than it looks.

A 41 per cent downturn in pretax profits to £14.8m for 1982 at Fosco Minsep, the metallurgical and specialist chemicals group, was not enough to dampen the City's enthusiasm for the company's shares. The City was expecting worse from a range of activities which depend heavily on depressed British, American and Japanese steel industries and the shares were up 9p to 151p on the news. At this price the shares yield 6.6 per cent, but should be seen as a recovery bet for 1984 rather than 1983 which will see only a modest improvement in profits compared with 1982.

Ward White Group

Ward White Group, whose recent acquisitions have turned it from a footwear manufacturing and engineering group into a predominantly retailing operation, outstripped most market expectations by £500,000 or more when it announced a 13 months pretax profit of £3.34m to January 31 from £3.5m for

the previous 12 months to the end of December. The alteration in the year end is to take into account its new retailing status.

Market sentiment was also helped by a 10 per cent dividend increase, most people were looking for same-gain payout, and the shares rose 4p to 101p for a yield of 4.43 per cent.

The story of the second half of the year has been an improvement in retailing profits (with a measure of acquisition profits contributing), improved overseas results and a reduction in losses on the engineering side.

Crystal balls for the next 12 months are cloudy at the moment. The group starts the current year with 360 footwear retail stores in the United Kingdom, with 90 at the start of last year. This week will see the announcement of a small acquisition taking the group into sports goods retailing, and further expansion is expected in this area.

In the US the £13.6m acquisition of Hoffheimer last August added 44 stores in Virginia and North Carolina to the 54 which Ward already operated on the West Coast.

Assuming that shoe retailing does reasonably well and backing the management's ability, shares could do well relative to the market in the medium term.

Granville & Co. Limited. (Formerly M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited) 27/28 Lovat Lane, London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212 The Over-the-Counter Market									
1982/83	1981/82	Company	Price	Div	Yield	Div	Yield	P/E	Dividend
142	120	Ass Brit Ind Ord	134	-	6.4	4.8	7.8	10.2	-
158	117	Ass Brit Ind CUS	132	-	10.0	6.6	-	-	-
74	57	Airgroup Group	62nd	-	6.1	9.8	17.7	-	-
46	29	Armstrong & Rhodes	29	-	4.3	14.8	3.5	17.7	-
325	197	Barclay Bank	325	-	11.4	3.5	13.7	17.2	-
145	100	CCL 11.0% Conv Pref	145	-	15.7	10.8	-	-	-
270	210	Cladco Group	210	-	17.6	8.4	-	-	-
86	50	Debenhams Services	50	-	6.0	12.0	3.3	8.9	-
97½	77	Frank Hensell	97½	-	8.1	8.1	8.7	-	-
96	75½	Frank Hensell P/O 87	96	-	8.7	9.0	10.7	11.4	-
83	61	Frederick Parker	62	-	7.1	11.3	3.9	16.2	-
55	24	George Baur	34	-	-	-	-	9.9	12.3
100	74	Ind Free Castings	77	-	7.5	9.3	-	9.9	12.4
166	100	Isis Conv Pref	166	-	15.7	9.3	-	-	-
146	94	James Group	146	-	7.5	5.1	4.5	9.3	-
216	111	Johnson Bros	216	-	9.6	4.4	15.8	17.6	-
260	148	Robert Jenkins	150	-	20.0	13.3	1.6	23.8	-
83	54	Scansons	69	-	5.7	8.3	9.0	10.8	-
167	112	Torday & Carlisle	114	-	11.4	10.0	5.1	8.8	-
29	21	Unilever Holdings	26	-	0.46	1.8	-	-	-
83	64	Walter Alexander	67	-	6.4	9.6	4.8	6.9	-
270	214	W. S. Yates	265	-	17.1	6.3	4.1	8.5	-

Prices now available on Prestel, page 43146

The New Throgmorton Trust PLC

The pro forma net asset value attributable to each new Capital Share to be issued under the terms of the reconstruction, based on the company's balance sheet as at 28.4.83, was 62p per Share.

COMPAGNIE BANCAIRE

Société Anonyme
Incorporated in France with limited liability

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

In accordance with the authority provided by resolutions of the Extraordinary General Meeting of shareholders passed on 29th April, 1981, the Board of Management has decided that the share capital of the Company be increased from FF83,855,383 to FF854,819,500 by the application of the sum of FF170,963,900 (amounting to the credit of the Company's reserves) in paying up in full 1,709,639 new shares of FF100 and by the allotment of the same free from all encumbrances to the shareholders.

Such 1,709,639 new shares numbered 6,968,375 to 8,678,013 inclusive, carry the right to dividends in respect of all periods after 31st December, 1982 and are issued subject to the provisions of the statutes of the Company in all other respects. Certificates will be issued with Coupon No.33 attached.

The new shares will rank pari passu and form a single class with the existing issued shares. Both the new and the old shares will participate to the same extent in the profits for all financial periods after 31st December, 1982 and in any repayment or partial repayment of the nominal amount of their capital.

In accordance with the provisions of article 19 of the statutes of the Company, as regards both the assets and the profits of the Company, all such shares carry the right in proportion to the amount of capital represented by each share, to the payment of equal net sums in any distribution or capital repayment, whether in a liquidation or otherwise, so that for this purpose all liabilities to tax which may be assumed by the Company and the benefit of exemptions from tax which may accrue directly to the Company will be deemed to be aggregated and apportioned equally among the shares.

Such 1,709,639 new shares will be allotted among the holders of the existing issued shares, numbered 1 to 8,338,555 inclusive, on the basis of 1 new share for every 4 shares held, ignoring fractional entitlements.

Shareholders who would be entitled to fractions of a new share may assign their rights to fractional entitlements to another such holder, save that no joint allotment will be made and the Company will not recognise more than one holder for a single share.

The right to receive an allotment will be represented by Coupon No.32 attached to the existing issued shares.

On and after 5th May, 1983 such coupon will cease to be valid as a dividend coupon.

The right to receive an allotment will be exercised:

a - for shares deposited with SICOVAM, by rights vouchers or certificates issued under SICOVAM's usual conditions;

b - for bearer shares, by the surrender of Coupon No.32 and c - for registered shares by the production of the certificates for denoting title with the stamp of one of the paying agents mentioned below.

As required by law, the right to receive an allotment will be negotiable in the same way as shares. "Bons de droits" will be available on demand (on and after 5th May, 1983) to registered shareholders existing in all or part of their rights.

A holder of existing issued shares may transfer his right to receive an allotment of new shares. The transfers will then become subrogated to the rights and obligations of the original holder as regards the exercise of such right to receive an allotment.

The new shares will be issued, to the order of the allottee, in registered or bearer form.

Requests for allotment may be made on and after 5th May, 1983, free of charge, at the following paying agents' offices:-

In France: Société Générale
Crédit Lyonnais
Banque Paribas
Banque Worms
Crédit du Nord
Banque Indosud
Banque Indosud (France)
Banque Nationale de Paris
Caisse Centrale des Banques Populaires
Crédit Commercial de France
Crédit Foncier de France
Crédit Industriel et Commercial
Banque de l'Union Européenne
Banque Vernet et Commerciale de Paris

In the United Kingdom: S. G. Warburg & Co. Ltd.
Société Générale
Crédit Lyonnais
Banque Paribas

where the appropriate forms will be available.

The unconsolidated Balance Sheet of the Company at 31st December, 1982, certified correct, was published in the Bulletin des Annonces Légales Obligatoires dated 28th March, 1983, page 1060.

Application is being made for quotation in Paris of the 1,709,639 new capitalisation shares, numbered 6,968,375 to 8,678,013 inclusive, and of the rights to receive the allotment of such shares. Application is also being made to the Council of The Stock Exchange in London for admission of the new shares to the Official List. Dealings in the new shares are expected to commence simultaneously in London and in Paris on 5th May, 1983.

André Lévy-Lang
President of the Board of Management
COMPAGNIE BANCAIRE
Registered address: 5 Avenue Kléber, Paris 16ème.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank 10 %
Barclays 10 %
BCCI 10 %
Consolidated Crds 10 %
C. Hoare & Co 10 %
Lloyds Bank 10 %
Midland Bank 10 %
Nik Westminster 10 %
TSB 10 %
Williams & Glyn's 10 %

* 7 day deposit on overdraft £100,000 6% up to £200,000 7% up to £500,000 and over 8%.

Bonusbond Holdings
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax loss, £93,000 (£514,000 profit)
Stated earnings (loss), 3.04p (profit 17.68p)
Turnover, £7.63m (£9.68m)
Net dividend, nil (3.5p).

C. H. Pearce & Sons
Half-year to 30.11.82
Pretax profit, £1.29m (£1.37m)
Turnover, £11.89m (£11.87m)
Net interim dividend, 4.25p (4.25p).

Midland Mills Group
Year to 28.1.83
Pretax profit, £24,000 (£506,000)
Stated earnings, 3.0p (3.0p)
Turnover, £2.7m (£2.13m)
Net dividend, 4.0p (4.0p).

Roberts Adlard
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit, £761,000 (£927,000)
Stated earnings, 11.25p (13.22p)
Turnover, £14.4m (£13.1m)
Net dividend, 10.0p (8.0p).

Jenks & Cattell
17 months to 31.12.82, compared with the previous months.
Pretax profit, £110,000 (£433,000 loss)
Stated earnings (loss), 1.1p (loss, 20.6p)
Turnover, £28.12m (£7.09m)
Net dividend, 1.5p (1.0p).

Silvermines Ltd (Figures in Irish currency)
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit, £720,000 (£3.4m)
Stated earnings 10.47p (24.89p)
Net dividend, 3.5p (3.5p).

PIONEER MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders of the COMPANY will be held at the BLINDLIES HOTEL, THE SEVENTH FLOOR, LIVERPOOL L3 5TH, on FRIDAY, 27th MAY 1983 at 11.00 a.m. for the purpose of transacting the following business:-

1. To receive the Statement of Accounts and Report of the Directors for the year ended 31st December 1982.
2. To re-elect Directors
(a) Professor G. Clayton M.A. who retires by rotation.
(b) Mr A. R. Bacon and Mr C. A. Youngman.
3. To re-appoint Arthur Young McLachlan Morris & Co as Auditors to the Company and to authorise the Directors to determine their remuneration.

DATED 4th May 1983.

By Order of the Board
D. BLEAZARD
Secretary

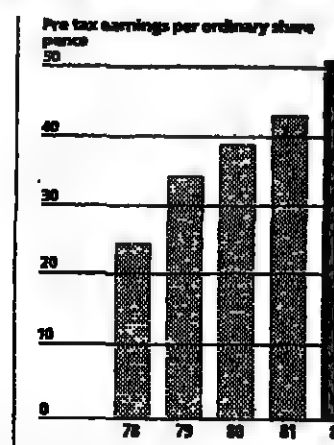
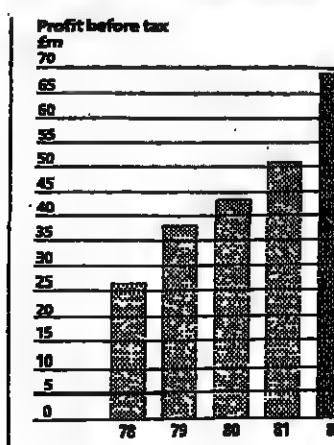
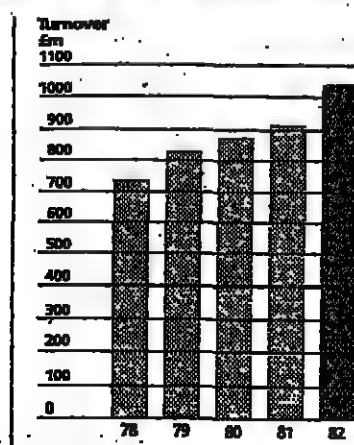
REGISTERED AND HEAD OFFICE
15 Crosby Road North
Widnes
Liverpool
L22 0RT

NOTE
A shareholder entitled to attend and vote may appoint a proxy to attend and vote instead of him. A proxy need not be a member of the Company.

TARMAC BUILDS PROFITS

Pre-tax profit up by 32% to a record £68.7 million.

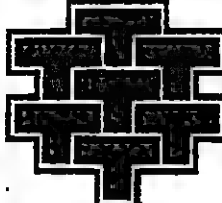
Turnover exceeded £1 billion for first time.



"I am particularly pleased that in a year of continuing economic problems, both in the United Kingdom and worldwide, the Tarmac group has maintained its strong growth record in profits and in earnings per share. Turnover exceeded £1 billion for the first time. The group's overall financial position has strengthened, with a further reduction

in its borrowing ratios. The star performer has been our Quarry Products division which has integrated the Hovingham acquisition with great skill. The United Kingdom Construction division also performed particularly well."

Eric J. Pountney
Deputy Chairman & Chief Executive



Tarmac Group

U.K. and International Construction,
Quarrying, Road Surfacing, Building
Products, House Building, Property
Development, Industrial Activities,
North Sea Interests.

Copies of the 1982 report and accounts will be available on May 19th from the Secretary, Tarmac PLC, Ettinghall, Wolverhampton WV4 6JP

THE TIMES 1000

1982/1983

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THAMES BOOKS LTD 16 Golden Square, London, W1.

BRITISH FUNDS

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield
1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
1001	1001	1001	1001	1001	1001	1001	1001	1001
1002	1002	1002	1002	1002	1002	1002	1002	1002
1003	1003	1003	1003	1003	1003	1003	1003	1003
1004	1004	1004	1004	1004	1004	1004	1004	1004
1005	1005	1005	1005	1005	1005	1005	1005	1005
1006	1006	1006	1006	1006	1006	1006	1006	1006
1007	1007	1007	1007	1007	1007	1007	1007	1007
1008	1008	1008	1008	1008	1008	1008	1008	1008
1009	1009	1009	1009	1009	1009	1009	1009	1009
1010	1010	1010	1010	1010	1010	1010	1010	1010

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield
1011	1011	1011	1011	1011	1011	1011	1011	1011
1012	1012	1012	1012	1012	1012	1012	1012	1012
1013	1013	1013	1013	1013	1013	1013	1013	1013
1014	1014	1014	1014	1014	1014	1014	1014	1014
1015	1015	1015	1015	1015	1015	1015	1015	1015
1016	1016	1016	1016	1016	1016	1016	1016	1016
1017	1017	1017	1017	1017	1017	1017	1017	1017
1018	1018	1018	1018	1018	1018	1018	1018	1018
1019	1019	1019	1019	1019	1019	1019	1019	1019
1020	1020	1020	1020	1020	1020	1020	1020	1020

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield
1021	1021	1021	1021	1021	1021	1021	1021	1021
1022	1022	1022	1022	1022	1022	1022	1022	1022
1023	1023	1023	1023	1023	1023	1023	1023	1023
1024	1024	1024	1024	1024	1024	1024	1024	1024
1025	1025	1025	1025	1025	1025	1025	1025	1025
1026	1026	1026	1026	1026	1026	1026	1026	1026
1027	1027	1027	1027	1027	1027	1027	1027	1027
1028	1028	1028	1028	1028	1028	1028	1028	1028
1029	1029	1029	1029	1029	1029	1029	1029	1029
1030	1030	1030	1030	1030	1030	1030	1030	1030

DOLLAR STOCKS

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield
1031	1031	1031	1031	1031	1031	1031	1031	1031
1032	1032	1032	1032	1032	1032	1032	1032	1032
1033	1033	1033	1033	1033	1033	1033	1033	1033
1034	1034	1034	1034	1034	1034	1034	1034	1034
1035	1035	1035	1035	1035	1035	1035	1035	1035
1036	1036	1036	1036	1036	1036	1036	1036	1036
1037	1037	1037	1037	1037	1037	1037	1037	1037
1038	1038	1038	1038	1038	1038	1038	1038	1038
1039	1039	1039	1039	1039	1039	1039	1039	1039
1040	1040	1040	1040	1040	1040	1040	1040	1040

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield
1041	1041	1041	1041	1041	1041	1041	1041	1041
1042	1042	1042	1042	1042	1042	1042	1042	1042
1043	1043	1043	1043	1043	1043	1043	1043	1043
1044	1044	1044	1044	1044	1044	1044	1044	1044
1045	1045	1045	1045	1045	1045	1045	1045	1045
1046	1046	1046	1046	1046	1046	1046	1046	1046
1047	1047	1047	1047	1047	1047	1047	1047	1047
1048	1048	1048	1048	1048	1048	1048	1048	1048
1049	1049	1049	1049	1049	1049	1049	1049	1049
1050	1050	1050	1050	1050	1050	1050	1050	1050

BREWERS AND DISTILLERS

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield
1051	1051	1051	1051	1051	1051	1051	1051	1051
1052	1052	1052	1052	1052	1052	1052	1052	1052
1053	1053	1053	1053	1053	1053	1053	1053	1053
1054	1054	1054	1054	1054	1054	1054	1054	1054
1055	1055	1055	1055	1055	1055	1055	1055	1055
1056	1056	1056	1056	1056	1056	1056	1056	1056
1057	1057	1057	1057	1057	1057	1057	1057	1057
1058	1058	1058	1058	1058	1058	1058	1058	1058
1059	1059	1059	1059	1059	1059	1059	1059	1059
1060	1060	1060	1060	1060	1060	1060	1060	1060

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield
1061	1061	1061	1061	1061	1061	1061	1061	1061
1062	1062	1062	1062	1062	1062	1062	1062	1062
1063	1063	1063	1063	1063	1063	1063	1063	1063
1064	1064	1064	1064	1064	1064	1064	1064	1064
1065	1065	1065	1065	1065	1065	1065	1065	1065
1066	1066	1066	1066	1066	1066	1066	1066	1066
1067	1067	1067	1067	1067	1067	1067	1067	1067
1068	1068	1068	1068	1068	1068	1068	1068	1068
1069	1069	1069	1069	1069	1069	1069	1069	1069
1070	1070	1070	1070	1070	1070	1070	1070	1070

The recent struggle for power

at Canadeca Resources, the British offshore exploration group, has led to a bitter taste at Tarmac, the quarries and construction group.

Yesterday, Tarmac sold its entire Canadeca stake of 10.3 per cent of the equity, at 158p a share, raising £4.74m. This compared with last night's close of 168p, down 8p.

Tarmac said it had taken its stake in Canadeca after Canadeca bought 40 per cent of Plascom, Tarmac's North Sea oil exploration subsidiary, amid hopes of an eventual merger of the two groups' exploration activities.

But Tarmac had since decided to sell its stake after discovering that the merger would not take place.

This came after the recent upheavals at Canadeca when Sceptre Resources, with 41 per cent of the shares, agreed to a fairer sale in the group's affairs. As a result, two of Canadeca's directors associated with Sceptre resigned, along with Mr Stuart McColl, who resigned as chairman, but remained on the board.

A bitter taste for Tarmac

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, April 25. Dealings and, May 8. Settlement Day, May 16.

Over the weekend, Canadeca appointed Kleinwort Benson as merchant bankers and Panmure Gordon and Fielding Newson-Smith as joint brokers.

Tarmac refused to comment on suggestions that it had used the cash from the sale of Canadeca to buy a 5 per cent stake in London Brick. "We could not answer a question like that. We will make an announcement through the normal channels", a Tarmac spokesman said.

The rest of the equity market opened the second leg of the account on a lacklustre note after the extended weekend break. The FT Index ended the day 3.2 down at 6921, having been 6.9 down earlier in the day.

Dealers said the steeper trend owed a lot to ICI's decision to raise \$100m (£64.5m) on the Eurobond market with a placing of convertible 9½ per cent 1990 at basic price of \$5.00.

Each \$5,000 bond is convertible into a £3,170 bond, carrying a coupon of 9½ per cent in sterling on the same terms as the dollar bond. Each bond will also have available five warrants entitling shareholders to subscribe for 117 ICI ordinary shares at 540p. ICI closed 6p lower at 466p.

Shares of Bowater ended the day 1p lower at 172p, after 176p, as a large seller of around 1 million shares appeared on the scene, but failed to find a home for his stock at around the 168p level. There was also a large seller of Trusthouse Forte on hand as the price ended the day 5p lower at 185p.

Meanwhile, shares of Mr Paul Hamlyn's Octopus Publishing ended the session 5p lower at 361p. The shares, which came to market last week at a striking price of 350p, were nearly five times oversubscribed with nearly £100m chasing the 2.4 million shares on offer at a minimum tender price of 275p.

Gills also recovered from a nervous start with rises of up to 2½p in active trading, reflecting the pound's gain of 1.8 cents on the foreign exchange to \$1.5785 - a new high for the year against most leading currencies.

This followed renewed hopes that the Prime Minister would soon end the uncertainty and call a June general election. This prompted steady overseas support for the pound. Only the index-linked stocks lost ground awaiting dealings in the new "tap".

Fisons was a strong market, jumping 22p to 660p after the group's recent figures and rights issues which were well received. Jobbers have always found the stock a difficult one to deal in, and over-priced demand inevitably leads to volatile price movements.

The Telerate flop on Wall Street continues to reverberate among its biggest shareholders. Exco International, with 57 per cent of the shares, dipped 40p to 593p, and British & Commonwealth, which has a sizable stake, slumped 30p to 810p.

Analysts have started to rethink their policy towards Telerate. Previously, dealers had believed that a cheap way into Telerate would have been a full bid for Exco.

Amvill Petroleum put up a good show in ex-rights form, with the shares closing 10p higher at 53p, while the new shares closed with a 17p premium nil paid.

GKN, one of our biggest engineering groups, closing 3p higher at 157p. The new shares gained ground, closing at 14p premium nil paid after the group's recent £77m rights issue.

RECENT ISSUES

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield
1071	1071	1071	1071	1071	1071	1071	1071	1071
1072	1072	1072	1072	1072	1072	1072	1072	1072
1073	1073	1073	1073	1073	1073	1073	1073	1073
1074	1074	1074	1074	1074	1074	1074	1074	1074
1075	1075	1075	1075	1075	1075	1075	1075	1075
1076	1076	1076	1076	1076	1076	1076	1076	1076
1077	1077	1077	1077	1077	1077	1077	1077	1077
1078	1078	1078	1078	1078	1078	1078	1078	1078
1079	1079	1079	1079	1079	1079	1079	1079	1079
1080	1080	1080	1080	1080	1080	1080	1080	1080

SHIPPING

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield
1081	1081	1081	1081	1081	1081	1081	1081	1081
1082	1082	1082	1082	1082	1082	1082	1082	1082
1083	1083	1083	1083	1083	1083	1083	1083	1083
1084	1084	1084	1084	1084	1084	1084	1084	1084
1085	1085	1085	1085	1085	1085	1085	1085	1085
1086	1086	1086	1086	1086	1086	1086	1086	1086
1087	1087	1087	1087	1087	1087	1087	1087	1087
1088	1088	1088	1088	1088	1088	1088	1088	1088
1089	1089	1089	1089	1089	1089	1089	1089	1089
1090	1090	1090	1090	1090	1090	1090	1090	1090

MINES

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield
1091	1091	1091	1091	1091	1091	1091	1091	1091
1092	1092	1092	1092	1092	1092	1092	1092	1092
1093	1093	1093	1093	1093	1093	1093	1093	1093
1094	1094	1094	1094	1094	1094	1094	1094	1094
1095	1095	1095	1095	1095	1095	1095	1095	1095
1096	1096	1096	1096	1096	1096	1096	1096	1096
1097	1097	1097	1097	1097	1097	1097	1097	1097
1098	1098	1098	1098	1098	1098	1098	1098	1098
1099	1099	1099	1099	1099	1099	1099	1099	1099
1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100

APPOINTMENTS

Societies name new chairman

Mr Herbert Walden, general manager and secretary of the Heart of England Building Society has been nominated chairman of the Council of the Building Societies Association for 1983-84. Mr Roy Cox, chief general manager and a director of the Alliance Building Society will succeed Mr Walden as deputy chairman.

Sir John Colville has been elected chairman of the London Committee of Ottomans Bank and Mr Nigel Robson deputy chairman. Mr T. R. Stephens has been appointed secretary.

Mr Duncan Ord-Hume has joined Wigham Poland Reinsurance Brokers as an associate director and Wigham Poland Marine Reinsurance a director.

Mr Richard Stanley has been elected chairman of the Metal Packaging Manufacturers Association. Mr Arthur Church, managing director of Nacanco becomes deputy chairman.

Mr A. M. Preston has been appointed a director of Garimore Fund Managers.

Miss Jane Chandler, Mr John Lomas, Mr Leslie Jackson, Mr Mark Gilbert and Mr Bruce McGregor have become partners of Theodore Goddard & Co. Mr J. N. Fisher and Mr R. K. Shute have retired as partners and Mr Michael Walters has succeeded Mr Fisher as senior partner.

Mr Martin Lawrence has been appointed sales director of I/B (Biscuits).

Mr Joseph Dwyer, Mr Roger Grey, Mr David Loudoun and Mr Peter Whitehouse have joined the executive board of the George Wimpey Group. Mr Grey has also been appointed a director of Wigham Group Services.

Mr J. C. D. Goldschmidt, Mr P. H. P. Stephens, Mr H. G. S. Bourne, Mr R. A. Bourne, Mr F. C. E. Teller and Mr J. B. Lambert have joined the partnership of Laurie, Milbank & Co.

Mr Clifford Jakes has been appointed group managing director of Link House Publications from July 1, but will join the board as a non-executive director.

Mr T. W. Bishop is the new director in charge of Spicer and Pegler Associates (formerly Spicer and Pegler Management Consultants).

Mr Michael Johnson has become managing director of Barker Ellis Silver Company.

Clive Cookson examines proposals for international cooperation

Technological advance – or making the French feel more important?

The most novel initiative by President Mitterrand, the host of last year's economic summit at Versailles, was to put technology on the agenda. The heads of government responded to his call for more international cooperation on advanced technology by setting up a working group of their scientific advisers to draw up specific proposals.

The group has put forward 18 projects in a report which the presidents and prime ministers will consider this month at Williamsburg. They cover subjects from fast-breeder reactors to aquaculture – growing plants in hot water. Even if only a fraction of the ideas are put into action, western cooperation on science and technology will have made a significant leap forward.

Yet, neither the specific plans nor the general commitment by the seven governments to increase cooperation have excited any public or political interest outside France.

The lack of enthusiasm elsewhere seems to reflect a widespread feeling that the Versailles technology initiative and its follow-up are little more than words to make the French feel important.

According to this view, the report will have no practical effect because the worthwhile proposals for cooperation would have been organized in any case, and the other ones will be allowed to die quietly because the governments will not be prepared to back them with hard cash.

Dr Robin Nicholson, Mrs Margaret Thatcher's scientific adviser and Britain's representative on the working group, takes a more positive attitude, without the Gallic over-optimism of some of President Mitterrand's staff who believe that international technology

THE 18 COOPERATIVE PROJECTS	
Subject	Organising countries
Photovoltaic solar energy	Italy, Japan
Controlled thermo-nuclear fusion	EEC, United States
Photo-synthesis	Japan
Fast breeder reactor	France, United States
Food technology	France, Britain
Aquaculture	Canada
Remote sensing from space	United States
High speed trains	Germany, France
Housing and urban planning for developing countries	France
Advanced robotics	France, Japan
New technologies in mature industries	France, Italy
Biotechnology	France, Britain
Advanced materials and standards	Britain, United States
Technologies for education, training and culture	Canada, France
Public acceptance of new technologies	Britain
Biological sciences	EEC
High energy physics	United States
Solar system exploration	United States

cooperation will lead automatically to more employment and faster growth.

"The effect of this initiative has been to raise the profile of science and technology to the highest level – I hope permanently," Dr Nicholson says. And he believes that some of the cooperative proposals will lead to new international cooperation that would not otherwise take place.

The heads of government will decide at Williamsburg how to treat the projects and how much direct interest they and their advisers will take in their future progress. They could establish some mechanism to monitor the projects and keep up their momentum – perhaps by setting up a small secretariat – or they might hand over responsibility to an existing body such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

But the leaders seem more likely to leave the 18 projects to sink or swim on their individual merits, without a guiding hand to keep them afloat as a group.

None of the countries has allocated any special funds for Versailles-initiated cooperation, so the projects will have to fight for a share of the existing

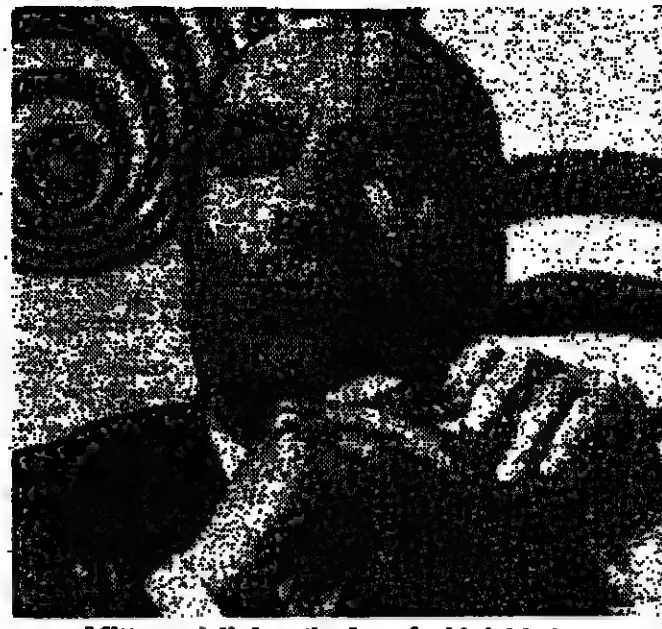
national science and technology budgets. France would probably have been happy to set aside a special pot of gold but the reluctance of the other participants and the deterioration of its own economic position have ruled that out.

If new international projects do come to life as a result of the initiative, they will not wear a Versailles identifying tag. "In

Williamsburg leaders will decide on policy

five years' time, people will probably have forgotten all about their origins," Dr Nicholson says.

One or two countries will take responsibility for organizing each of the 18 projects, with three or four others expected to join in the actual work. Britain is sole organizer of the only social science project – research into public acceptance of new technologies – and is organizing projects on food technology and biotechnology with France and on advanced materials and standards with the United States.



Mitterrand: little enthusiasm for his initiative

As the summary table shows, the projects are a peculiar mixture of the obvious and the unexpected. Some would cost hundreds of millions of pounds if developed fully – for example the proposal to develop and use joint equipment for thermo-nuclear fusion research – while others involve little more than an improved exchange of researchers and results from existing activities.

Some fields are relatively neglected, most notably information technology and electronics. That is presumably because participants felt that computer development is too commercially competitive for successful cooperation and perhaps also because the Americans are reluctant for reasons of national security to share details of their most advanced work on micro-electronics, sponsored mainly by the Department of Defence.

In addition, European delegates wanted their Esprit programme to get going on its own, without complicating matters further by involving the Japanese and Americans.

There is a wide disparity in the effort which the different governments have been willing to devote to organizing the

projects. As the prime mover behind the whole programme, France has naturally taken on most work, organizing eight projects.

At the other extreme are Italy and Canada with two each and Germany which has only one – though that is admittedly an interesting project, being organized with France on high speed trains and also involving Britain and Japan.

A peculiar mixture of the obvious and unexpected

As an independent participant at the summit, the European Community is organizing two projects. Potentially the more significant is its fusion. It could lead in the end to the EEC (whose members are already cooperating on the JET experiment) working with the United States and Japan on a multinational pound reactor to demonstrate fusion as a controllable energy source for the next century. Such cooperation has been mentioned before, but the Versailles framework may help to bring it about.

Telecom – too big for competition

British Telecom should be stripped of its right to provide telecommunications equipment. That is the most popular view being aired by those wishing to see the corporation's growth arrested and private enterprise given the opportunity which the Tories have been promising for the past three years.

Such a move would be the first step toward curbing the corporation's growing political strength and ensuring that it would never have a commanding influence again in the British telecommunications market. British Telecom would then only be the guardian of the national network. A few more successful political assaults on the corporation would then ensure that the network be broken up into regions – or profit centres – similar to the system adopted by the electricity generating boards.

Competition, the Government has decided, will be the prime control on British Telecom but even the proponents of that solution are beginning to doubt whether anyone can compete with the growing telecommunications corporation.

The Telecommunications Engineering Manufacturers Association whose members comprise the principal suppliers of telecommunications equipment to British Telecom recently failed in its attempt to convince the Government that the corporation's activities in equipment supply should be curbed. It ideally wanted a ban. It compromised on a quota. In the end it got nothing and British Telecom remained dominant.

If the Government wants to create the biggest and most powerful corporation in European telecommunications whose favour must be cultivated, then it is on the right track. If, however, it genuinely wants to create an atmosphere of competition then it has definitely got it all wrong.

British Telecom supplying telephones and even private automatic exchanges (PAX) can at least be justified but last week's announcement by the corporation that it was about to launch its microcom-

puter, its word processor and its communications terminal has begun to make even some of the corporation's staunch supporters think again.

They are asking themselves the question: What is the Government trying to do? What happened to the promises made by Sir Keith Joseph when he first introduced the concept of liberalization in 1980?

The truth of the matter is that the Government had no idea how complex the telecommunications industry was and despite its political rhetoric to the contrary, it wanted to ensure that it still had control. British Telecom, even if half sold to the private sector – as is the Government's declared intention – would be that control mechanism. The Government is not frightened to dilute British Telecom's powers, it does not want to and has encouraged the corporation to go from strength to strength.

Last week's product announcement was a few weeks after the corporation's declaration that it will be a dominant force in the cable television market. The Government's Information Technology Advisory Panel estimates, published a year ago, concluded that it would require about £2,000m-£3,000m to cable half the homes in Britain.

It is no coincidence that four of the most credible cable television projects to be discussed with the Government have British Telecom as one of the principal partners. The cable television industry may be about to find what the telecommunications industry in the United Kingdom has been learning over the past three years – British Telecom rules.

The Government should come clean. If it wants competition let us see it in equipment supply, cable television, satellite and telephone sectors. If it wants a dominant force in the market which is British, whether publicly owned or not, then fine, but let us not feign competition. Real competition would mean dismantling British Telecom.

Bill Johnstone

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RACING

The cash that is lacking at the heart of the racing industry

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

English racing is full of contradictions these days. On the one hand you could be forgiven for thinking that the game has never been so affluent: on the other you get the impression that it has never been more hard-up. There are more horses in training than ever before, more money is being spent on young horses, and mature horses are commanding higher and higher prices at stud.

But there is another side to the story, and it is worrying. There is a shortage of capital available at the highest level for major projects, which is partially due to the lack of funds rolling into the Levy Board's coffers. The snag is that everyone is appealing for help at the same time.

The Thoroughbred Breeders Association has given a marvelous example of self-help with the formation of the European Breeders Fund, which now looks like getting off the ground. If it succeeds, some much-needed additions will be made to prize-money next year. But if the industry is to look forward to the future with confidence, there is another cause that is extremely important - and I am

not referring to the Aintree/Grand National appeal.

If long-term needs of racing are borne in mind, the Apprentice School Charitable Trust is arguably more important. There is no earthly point in breeding, buying and racing horses at huge cost if there is a shortage of top-class labour to care for them. That is why I believe that this particular cause deserves the overriding consideration of anyone with the English racing at heart.

There is a new training school for stable staff and apprentice jockeys, designed to reinforce the quality of racing's work force, now under construction at Newmarket, but the trust is faced with a serious shortfall in the sum required to complete the work. Donations have risen to over £1m since the trust bought the 118-acre site last summer, but with development costs now put at £1.2m, on top of the site purchase price of £250,000, another £500,000 is still needed.

The trust is holding talks with the Manpower Services Commission about recognition and financial assistance from the Government youth training scheme, but the actual develop-



Leading racing into the future: the need for qualified stable staff is immense. The money to train them is not.

ment of the site is very much racing's responsibility. The begging bowl has been rattled far and wide for the National, but for the Apprentice School Charitable Trust the buck surely stops within the industry.

The building programme, due for completion in August, includes residential, teaching, catering and recreation accommodation for up to 30 trainees,

staff quarters, an indoor riding school, all-weather and grass gallops and stabling for 30 horses. The aim is to turn out 100 trained stable staff each year, and to provide advanced courses for potential jockeys and work riders.

Michael Pope, the president of National Trainers' Federation, and the trainers' own representative on the trust, says

that the school will produce well-trained boys and girls able to meet the requirements of trainers who no longer have time and resources to teach staff. It will also provide a way into worthwhile employment for school leavers.

Lord Macalpine of Moffat, the chairman of the trustees, had his finger on the pulse when he said: "There is no doubt that

this long overdue training facility will make a vital contribution to strengthening the roots of the sport for many years to come." Within racing, causes do not come much more deserving than that. Anyone who feels the same can direct their inquiries to Lord Macalpine at 40, Bernard Street, London, WC1N 1LG.

POINT-TO-POINT

Short, sharp lesson from Housemistress

The eagerly awaited return match between Tindon Le (Jenny Pidgeon) and Housemistress (Rosemary Harper) in the Becks and Backs Ladies' Open at Kingston Blount produced one of the best races of the season. Over the same course on March 2, Random Leg had beaten the mare by six lengths, but in view of the recent form Housemistress started at eight odds on last Saturday.

The Baker made a gallant effort to stay with them, but coming down the hill for the second time, the two principals pulled away from the field, with Random Leg in a slight lead. Harper's mare leapt up half a mile from home, but Housemistress nipped through on the inside and Rosemary Harper had her race won before the last fence, increasing her lead to 10 lengths on the run-in.

On the testing going, the time of 6 min. 46 sec. was very fast. Another outstanding mare, Spartan Lace, who had little to do after the main danger, Good Trade, had fallen on the second circuit, had taken 20 seconds longer to win the Men's Open.

Jenny Pidgeon took her winning score to 17, with an adjacent hunt victory on French Peacock, who had to be pushed out to resist the challenge of Perry Duckett, ridden by Annie Garfield.

Alan Hill, who is in great form, won the Restricted Open on the

handsome home-bred five-year-old, Elmboy, but the first division of the Maiden on Kough Wind, his only two rides, he is now three points ahead of Ian McKie at the head of the men's table for the South Midlands Championships, sponsored by James Pettit and Co.

Yorkshire Mariner started at 2-1 on for the Queen Open at Carborough and jumped the last fence in a slight lead, but Peter Greenall was sitting ready to pounce on Boonsbaro, who showed the better finishing speed.

Sheila Scott, riding her own Highgate Lady, and Caroline Saunders, hoping for a fourth successive win on Prince of Pleasure, jumped the last fence level in the RMC group Ladies' Open, but Highgate Lady sprinted clear on the run-in. The pony-sized Vulgarian did complete a four-timer, winning in the adjacent hunt race easily.

Ryedale, ridden by Joey Newton, and Markhill, with Peter Greenall up, were joint favourites for the hunt race, in which Newton prevailed by a length over the champion, Greenall's third ride, Highland Blaze, started favourite for the first leg of the Maiden but was always trailing and eventually pulled out, the race going to the 25-1 outsider King Black.

Ian Reid

Open day at the Royal Mews

The Queen has stepped in to save the Grand National. She has given permission for a special open day at the Royal Mews, Buckingham Palace on Friday, May 27 to help boost the 24th Aintree Appeal Fund.

Visitors will be able to see the horses which are ridden by members of the Royal Family during the Trooping the Colour ceremony, including the Queen's long-serving Bessie. Some of the state ceremonial carriages will also be on show.

The stable and coach horses will be open from 10.30am to 12.30pm and from 2pm to 4pm. A charge of £1 for adults and 50p for children will be made. The fund is still £758,000 short of its target.

Following in Mill Reef's footsteps

By Michael Phillips

Flat racing is due to resume at Salisbury today. The course was declared fit by the stewards yesterday, and only overnight rain will prompt a morning respite.

Many years ago, the Salisbury Stakes was a reliable pointer to the season, especially when the late Charles Engelhard had horses in training in this country. Jerry Foster made a habit of winning the race for him, and Mr Engelhard sponsored it for a while. Double Jump was arguably his best winner.

Ian Balding introduced Mill Reef to the racing world in the Salisbury Stakes, but the race went off the back for a while, until Horage put it back on the map again last year. Horage went on to win the Coventry Stakes, the July Stakes and the Gimcrack Stakes.

Today there is every prospect of a good clash between Stanley The Baron, Carabiner and My Louie, all unbeaten. From the first crop of that fast horse, Foster made a habit of winning the race for him, and Mr Engelhard sponsored it for a while. Double Jump was arguably his best winner.

Deciding between Broad Beam and Moon Jester for the Derby Handicap is not easy. Broad Beam was beaten a neck at Wolverhampton by Rocks Gate, who went on to win the Somerset Stakes at Bath with ridiculous ease. Moon Jester was beaten three-quarters of a length at Kempton by Harly, who went on to win the Warren Stakes at Epsom. In my book Broad Beam's form is marginally better.

Finally, the word from Ireland on the ever-changing plans concerning Vincent O'Brien's Derby horses is that Salmon Leap is running at Phoenix Park tonight, but he may go for the Nijinsky Stakes at Leopardstown on Saturday instead of Carlow.

STATE OF GOING: Cheltenham, heavy; Salisbury, heavy.

Salisbury

Draw advantage: high runners
2.0 WILTSHIRE HANDICAP (21,927: 2m) (11 runners)
1 0020-00 REDDEN (C) (Engelhard) 5-11-13
2 0031-14 STEELWORKS (C) (Hood) 5-11-13
3 0032-12 HANSEN (C) (Hood) 5-11-13
4 0033-12 HANSEN (C) (Hood) 5-11-13
5 0034-12 HANSEN (C) (Hood) 5-11-13
6 0035-12 HANSEN (C) (Hood) 5-11-13
7 0036-12 HANSEN (C) (Hood) 5-11-13
8 0037-12 HANSEN (C) (Hood) 5-11-13
9 0038-12 HANSEN (C) (Hood) 5-11-13
10 0039-12 HANSEN (C) (Hood) 5-11-13
11 0040-12 HANSEN (C) (Hood) 5-11-13

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also on page 26

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RECRUITMENT

VIDEO PRODUCTION £2500 + exp. benefits
Working as part of a fast-moving, international team, you will become involved in a fast-moving, international team. Handling extensive travel arrangements, dealing with correspondence in your own language and working in a team where you will gain the best possible experience. Salary 10000 p.a. and a bright personality essential.

MOBILE SECRETARY £2500 + exp. benefits
This is the highlight of the unusual and interesting position. As a "mobile" secretary you will travel with the company and handle all the day-to-day secretarial duties of the company. You will be responsible for the company's mobile office and will be required to travel extensively. Salary 10000 p.a. and a bright personality essential.

PUBLISHING (Pressy Shortland) £2500 (early review)
With the Production Manager of this large publishing group, you will become involved in a fast-moving, international team. Handling extensive travel arrangements, dealing with correspondence in your own language and working in a team where you will gain the best possible experience. Salary 10000 p.a. and a bright personality essential.

SYNERGY the recruitment consultancy
01-537 9533

JAYCAR CAREERS

Junior Sec. WCI PR Co. £5,000
A top PA/Sec. City Bank £7,500
Young PA/Sec. for Director £7,500
Good Sec. Theatrical Agents £7,000
Advertising Sec. for MD £5,000
Rec. + Audio Property Co. £5,500

Tel: 01-730 5148 (24hrs) Recruitment Consultants

OPPORTUNITIES IN PUBLIC RELATIONS

SECRETARY/PA
Our client, established as one of the leading PR consultancies, has an outstanding record of growth and a prestigious client list. Continued expansion has created three new openings assisting at both middle management and director level in a fast moving and interesting environment. If you are looking for a role where initiative and intelligence are rewarded both financially and by career development then this may well be ideal. At least 18 months experience and first class secretarial skills will be essential. A first class position also exists for an experienced

RECEPTIONIST/TELEPHONIST
aged 25+ with excellent personal presentation and organisational skills. For full details of these vacancies, which are exclusive to our company, contact Barry Eagleton on 01-531 1085 ext. 730 p.m.

Price Jamieson & Partners Ltd

SECRETARY/PA

Required by Partner in busy architectural practice. Ability to take initiative and grasp complex contract procedures is essential, as well as enthusiasm and willingness to work as part of an architectural team carrying out a variety of multi-million pound projects. Salary by negotiation, but consistent with those offered on this page in relation to experience. Write with CV and salary required to Miss B. Davis, The Halperne Partnership, 9-15 Leonard Street, E.C.2.

SECRETARY/PA TO FINANCE DIRECTOR

£9,000

Required for progressive company (part of a large international group) with modern offices, close to the City. Applicants should have the ability to take on senior level and to work on their own initiative. First class secretarial skills essential, including working knowledge of word processors. Background of working in finance department at a senior, secretarial level is necessary. Preferred age 20+.

01-734 7282

MARY OVERTON

RECRUITMENT LIMITED
35 Piccadilly, London W1V 9PB
01-589 8807/08/09

INTRODUCING BUSINESS PEOPLE

We are part of the second largest recruitment organisation in the world based in Switzerland. If you are thinking of changing your job, please send your CV and be placed on our Professional Register. We have many interesting secretarial and administrative vacancies ranging from £5,000-£9,000 with international companies and offering good benefits. We treat all applications as urgent and assure confidentiality and professional service.

Please contact Maggie Galt 408 0523

PROPERTY CO.

Help the senior partner in his PA secretary dealing discreetly with confidential matters and organising meetings, lunches, etc. Speech and grooming should be excellent for this prestigious position. Both shorthand and some audio required.

£7,750

Phone Sarah Fonseca 528 4200

ANN WASHINGTON SECRETARIAL CAREERS

URGENTLY REQUIRED

Secretary for 2 Directors of new travel firm company located EC2. If you seek challenge in enthusiastic atmosphere & possess initiative please telephone Sabina Stewart.

01 729 1829

ENERGETIC SEC P/A

Required for young surveyor in Mayfair office. Good skills essential.

Salary £7,500

ROBERT NEIL & CO.

499 0667

I'LL PAY UP TO £9,000 TO ANYONE WHO CAN RUN ME EFFICIENTLY

It's a lot of money but it's a very tough job. I'm a Partner in one of London's fastest growing new advertising agencies and I need a SUPERPERSON to help me.

First you will need fast, accurate typing and be happy to work with dictation machines, as I haven't got time for shorthand. You will have a word processor to lessen the typing chore and let you spend more time running me!

That includes lots of new business calls, fighting your way past reluctant secretaries as well as managing my diary to avoid the chaos of double booked meetings.

To do that with 100% success (which is what I will always encourage you to aim

at, you will need to be highly intelligent, a very fast worker, unflappable, have a good memory, a great sense of humour and a willingness to work long hours when necessary.

Energy, enthusiasm and commitment will turn what might otherwise be a thankless task into what I hope will be the most rewarding and satisfying job you've ever had.

My current secretary, who is being promoted within the company, thinks this ad gives a true picture of the job. If you think you can stand the pace, write to her with a detailed C.V. and a recent photograph of yourself, plus any other information you think is relevant.

Post it as soon as possible to: Karin Jamotte, 41-44, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AR

Secretary in Personnel

c.£8,000 plus preferential mortgage facilities City

A prestigious international bank in the City is looking for an intelligent well-organised secretary to support the Head of Personnel who is responsible for the efficient operation of the personnel function within a sophisticated and demanding environment.

Candidates should be aged 25-30 years old, possess good secretarial skills and should be charismatic, diplomatic and, above all, dynamic! Previous personnel experience would be helpful but less important than the correct personal skills.

Please write, enclosing a curriculum vitae to Box No 9709, c/o Ekel Advertising, 4 Boulevard Street, London EC4Y 6AB.

LEGAL SECRETARY

E.C.2

Large City firm of solicitors requires experienced secretary for young partner responsible for Middle East clients.

Accurate typing and ability to work under some pressure essential. Interesting post with client contact.

Age 23-35. Salary up to £7,000. Luncheon Vouchers. Season Ticket loan. 4 weeks holiday. Contact Personnel, 628 0142.

PA/SECRETARY TO DIRECTOR GENERAL

Nr. Charing X c. £7,500

An efficient, mature PA/Secretary is required to work for a Trade Association Chief Executive.

Requirements are as follows:

- Fast s/h, minimum 100 wpm.
- Fast and accurate typing.
- Good organisational ability.
- Cheerful disposition.

Please telephone Mr H. J. Hornsby 839 4861

Work with the Chairman of fast-moving International Management Consulting Firm

We need an experienced PA/Secretary 25-35 used to pressure with excellent skills. Small West End office. Salary c.£8,500 - £9,000. Present Secretary has transferred to Paris. Call John Stark on 01-839 4953 for more information.

SECRETARY/PA TO FINANCE DIRECTOR

£9,000

Required for progressive company (part of a large international group) with modern offices, close to the City. Applicants should have the ability to take on senior level and to work on their own initiative. First class secretarial skills essential, including working knowledge of word processors. Background of working in finance department at a senior, secretarial level is necessary. Preferred age 20+.

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01 729 1829

ENERGETIC SEC P/A

Required for young surveyor in Mayfair office. Good skills essential.

Salary £7,500

ROBERT NEIL & CO.

499 0667

MEDICAL SECRETARY

For two consultants with offices in Devonshire Place 9.00 a.m. - 5.30 p.m. 4 weeks holiday. Salary dependent on age and experience.

Ring 486 2561

My firm never looked back once we started to get our temporaries from...

Senior Secretaries

CITY 01-406 5871/5872/5873/5874/5875/5876/5877/5878/5879/5880/5881/5882/5883/5884/5885/5886/5887/5888/5889/5890/5891/5892/5893/5894/5895/5896/5897/5898/5899/5900/5901/5902/5903/5904/5905/5906/5907/5908/5909/5910/5911/5912/5913/5914/5915/5916/5917/5918/5919/5920/5921/5922/5923/5924/5925/5926/5927/5928/5929/5930/5931/5932/5933/5934/5935/5936/5937/5938/5939/5940/5941/5942/5943/5944/5945/5946/5947/5948/5949/5950/5951/5952/5953/5954/5955/5956/5957/5958/5959/5960/5961/5962/5963/5964/5965/5966/5967/5968/5969/5970/5971/5972/5973/5974/5975/5976/5977/5978/5979/5980/5981/5982/5983/5984/5985/5986/5987/5988/5989/5990/5991/5992/5993/5994/5995/5996/5997/5998/5999/6000/6001/6002/6003/6004/6005/6006/6007/6008/6009/6010/6011/6012/6013/6014/6015/6016/6017/6018/6019/6020/6021/6022/6023/6024/6025/6026/6027/6028/6029/6030/6031/6032/6033/6034/6035/6036/6037/6038/6039/6040/6041/6042/6043/6044/6045/6046/6047/6048/6049/6050/6051/6052/6053/6054/6055/6056/6057/6058/6059/6060/6061/6062/6063/6064/6065/6066/6067/6068/6069/6070/6071/6072/6073/6074/6075/6076/6077/6078/6079/6080/6081/6082/6083/6084/6085/6086/6087/6088/6089/6090/6091/6092/6093/6094/6095/6096/6097/6098/6099/6100/6101/6102/6103/6104/6105/6106/6107/6108/6109/6110/6111/6112/6113/6114/6115/6116/6117/6118/6119/6120/6121/6122/6123/6124/6125/6126/6127/6128/6129/6130/6131/6132/6133/6134/6135/6136/6137/6138/6139/6140/6141/6142/6143/6144/6145/6146/6147/6148/6149/6150/6151/6152/6153/6154/6155/6156/6157/6158/6159/6160/6161/6162/6163/6164/6165/6166/6167/6168/6169/6170/6171/6172/6173/6174/6175/6176/6177/6178/6179/6180/6181/6182/6183/6184/6185/6186/6187/6188/6189/6190/6191/6192/6193/6194/6195/6196/6197/6198/6199/6200/6201/6202/6203/6204/6205/6206/6207/6208/6209/6210/6211/6212/6213/6214/6215/6216/6217/6218/6219/6220/6221/6222/6223/6224/6225/6226/6227/6228/6229/6230/6231/6232/6233/6234/6235/6236/6237/6238/6239/6240/6241/6242/6243/6244/6245/6246/6247/6248/6249/6250/6251/6252/6253/6254/6255/6256/6257/6258/6259/6260/6261/6262/6263/6264/6265/6266/6267/6268/6269/6270/6271/6272/6273/6274/6275/6276/6277/6278/6279/6280/6281/6282/6283/6284/6285/6286/6287/6288/6289/6290/6291/6292/6293/6294/6295/6296/6297/6298/6299/6300/6301/6302/6303/6304/6305/6306/6307/6308/6309/6310/6311/6312/6313/6314/6315/6316/6317/6318/6319/6320/6321/6322/6323/6324/6325/6326/6327/6328/6329/6330/6331/6332/6333/6334/6335/6336/6337/6338/6339/6340/6341/6342/6343/6344/6345/6346/6347/6348/6349/6350/6351/6352/6353/6354/6355/6356/6357/6358/6359

Humberts

MID SUSSEX
Phampton Green in a quiet cul-de-sac with lovely view in South Downs & in excellent condition, 4 beds, 2 baths, dining rm, kit/breakfast rm, sitting rm, cloak rm, garage, offers in the region of £66,000.

Phampton 890586

Table 1. Summary of the results of the regression analysis

STOP PRESS

HURRY LAST FEW NEW ROVER 3500s AT 1/2 PRICE

cars are left hand drive, right hand drive conversion extra. Delivery anywhere in U.K., demonstration models including right hand drive in our showrooms. Grand Garages, 400-408 High St., Brentford, Middlesex (Nr Kew Bridge). Sat & Sun. 10-4, weekday 9-8. Written details and photographs available. TEL: 01-847 2541

COLLECTORS CARS

1951 Morris Minor 1000 Convertible
completely overhauled as new, low
mileage history. £24,000. Tel: (0491)
63266.

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

SALES

MANAGER

VAL OVER-SEAS LEAGUE, Port
hace, St. James's, and also at 100
Prince St., Edinburgh. The elegant
and hospitable venue.
Banqueting Manager.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

PIANO WORKSHOP UK agents for renowned Young Chang pianos in the Gulf. For more details contact: **JOHN DYEL** French, Studio City, Los Angeles, CA 90048. Tel: N.W.S. 01 307 7671. 7 days.

JOHN DYEL French	Studio City, Los Angeles, CA 90048
JOHN DYEL English	London, England
JOHN DYEL German	Munich, Germany
JOHN DYEL Italian	Rome, Italy
JOHN DYEL Spanish	Madrid, Spain
JOHN DYEL Japanese	Tokyo, Japan
JOHN DYEL Chinese	Beijing, China
JOHN DYEL Russian	Moscow, Russia
JOHN DYEL Indian	New Delhi, India
JOHN DYEL Australian	Sydney, Australia
JOHN DYEL New Zealand	Auckland, New Zealand
JOHN DYEL South African	Johannesburg, South Africa
JOHN DYEL Canadian	Toronto, Canada
JOHN DYEL Mexican	Mexico City, Mexico
JOHN DYEL Brazilian	Brazilia, Brazil
JOHN DYEL Argentine	Buenos Aires, Argentina
JOHN DYEL Chilean	Santiago, Chile
JOHN DYEL Peruvian	Lima, Peru
JOHN DYEL Colombian	Bogota, Colombia
JOHN DYEL Venezuelan	Caracas, Venezuela
JOHN DYEL Ecuadorian	Quito, Ecuador
JOHN DYEL Guatemalan	Guatemala City, Guatemala
JOHN DYEL Honduran	Tegucigalpa, Honduras
JOHN DYEL Nicaraguan	Managua, Nicaragua
JOHN DYEL Panamanian	Panama City, Panama
JOHN DYEL Salvadoran	San Salvador, El Salvador
JOHN DYEL Uruguayan	Montevideo, Uruguay
JOHN DYEL Paraguayan	Asuncion, Paraguay
JOHN DYEL Bolivian	Sucre, Bolivia
JOHN DYEL Cuban	Havana, Cuba
JOHN DYEL Dominican	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
JOHN DYEL Haitian	Port-au-Prince, Haiti
JOHN DYEL Jamaican	Kingston, Jamaica
JOHN DYEL Trinidadian	Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
JOHN DYEL Barbadian	Bridgetown, Barbados
JOHN DYEL Guyanese	Georgetown, Guyana
JOHN DYEL Surinamese	Paramaribo, Suriname
JOHN DYEL Guinean	Conakry, Guinea
JOHN DYEL Sierra Leonean	Freetown, Sierra Leone
JOHN DYEL Liberian	Monrovia, Liberia
JOHN DYEL Ivorian	Abidjan, Ivory Coast
JOHN DYEL Ghanaian	Accra, Ghana
JOHN DYEL Togolese	Lome, Togo
JOHN DYEL Beninese	Cotonou, Benin
JOHN DYEL Nigerian	Lagos, Nigeria
JOHN DYEL Cameroonian	Yaounde, Cameroon
JOHN DYEL Congolese	Kinshasa, Congo
JOHN DYEL Zairian	Kinshasa, Zaire
JOHN DYEL Angolan	Luanda, Angola
JOHN DYEL Namibian	Windhoek, Namibia
JOHN DYEL Botswanan	Gaborone, Botswana
JOHN DYEL Swaziland	Mbabane, Swaziland
JOHN DYEL Lesotho	Maseru, Lesotho
JOHN DYEL Malawian	Lilongwe, Malawi
JOHN DYEL Zambian	Lusaka, Zambia
JOHN DYEL Mozambican	Maputo, Mozambique
JOHN DYEL Tanzanian	Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
JOHN DYEL Ugandan	Kampala, Uganda
JOHN DYEL Kenyan	Nairobi, Kenya
JOHN DYEL Ethiopian	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
JOHN DYEL Sudanese	Khartoum, Sudan
JOHN DYEL Eritrean	Asmara, Eritrea
JOHN DYEL Somali	Mogadishu, Somalia
JOHN DYEL Djiboutian	Djibouti, Djibouti
JOHN DYEL Rwandan	Kigali, Rwanda
JOHN DYEL Burundian	Bujumbura, Burundi
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JOHN DYEL Sudanese	Khartoum, Sudan
JOHN DYEL Eritrean	Asmara, Eritrea
JOHN DYEL Somali	Mogadishu, Somalia
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JOHN DYEL Botswanan	Gaborone, Botswana
JOHN DYEL Swaziland	Mbabane, Swaziland</

**COMPANY MEETING
NOTICES**

THE GREAT NORTHERN
TELEGRAPH COMPANY LIMITED
OF DENMARK
An Ordinary GENERAL MEETING
is to be held at Indemness House, 41, C
St. Vincent Street, London, W.C.2, on
Thursday the 19th May, 1963 at 4 p.m.
AGENDA
Report on the Company's business
during the past year

Accountancy Personnel

Glen House, Star Place, London SW1

the complete proposals to be submitted to the General Meeting, together with the Chairman's and the Group's accounts, and the Auditors' report, will go on to the inspection of shareholders at the Company's offices in London, and also be sent to all shareholders and to the Company's registrar at the same time.

Details of admission may be obtained from the Company's offices in London, or from the Registrar of Companies, 25 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF.

Telephone: 01-528 6004

NEGOTIATOR

We require a dynamic, experienced, energetic negotiator, for our highly successful residential letting office. The successful candidate will be hard working, energetic, and hard working, self motivated and

LETTINGS NEGOTIATOR

Experienced negotiator for a busy residential letting office in St. John's Wood. The applicant should have professional ability, a proven track record and be a challenging position in a new

before the General Meeting, or
holders proving their rights as
holders of the shares in the
company, and the other matters
and paragraphs of the Articles of
Association.

He is employed under a
contract of service with the
company as one of its subsidiaries.
The Board of Directors of
GREAT NORTHERN TELE
GRAPH COMPANY LIMITED
of ENGLAND.

have a record of seven years
preferred over 75 - 58 weeks. Can
investments. Earnings potential
well in excess of £10,000 p.a.

Contact K. Sheehan
Anscombe & Ringland
01-536 3111

has dealings with PERKINS &
Company, Ltd., 20, Dufferin Street,
Tel. Michael Berry 999 5754

GLANORGAN CHWEL, Arthurside, Co. Wick,
Ireland. Urgently required experienced
superintendent. Tel. 0792 55200.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS
EXPERIENCED 20 plus years for 11 and 12 schoolers, North London

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER
 Wholesale telephone company requires young man (25-30 years) to fill this demanding and responsible position. Must be mature and ambitious. Salary negotiable. — *Circle no. 10*

SALES LEDGER CLERK
 Wholesale telephone company requires young but experienced Clerk, no sales account. \$4,500 p.a. telephone — *Circle no. 11*

JOANNE BOWEN

[illegible]

UNISEKRED

SITUATIONS REQUIRED

FRENCH BOY, 12, seeks job, anything long considered (others etc.) for one year from 1940. Schmidt, 10, rue Carrier d'Arches, 14300 Cluses, France.

IN the matter of ANGLO-GARDINING TOURS Limited, by order of the High Court of Justice dated Thursday 24 May 1940, Sir Brian Mills, 10, Westmore Place, Carter Lane, London EC4A 5AJ, has been appointed Liquidator of the above-mentioned Company (without) a Committee of Inspection.

Dated this 26th day of April, 1963

Required.

For four bedroom villa on Sotomayor del Cielo, Costa del Sol near Marbella. Completion July 1983 for six months at least.

Responsible as follows:

1. Reasonable standard of cooking fresh food
2. Ability to drive

1. Good hand typing very fast.
 2. Age 25/45 Non Smoking
 3. No dogs
 4. No children
 5. Salary negotiable.
 6. Ideally resident N. London area.
 Anxious to visit during interview.
 London based interview, to be held at 107

TO ADVERTISE YOUR

MOTOR

MOTOR CAR

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THE TIMES
COSTS ONLY

COSTS ONLY
£3.25 per line or £14 per centimetre

Simply complete the coupon below with details of your company, together with your name, address and telephone number, and we will telephone you with a quotation before we insert your advertisement.

Advertisement:
 Advertisement:

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Name Address

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..... Telephone

Post this coupon to The Times, Classified Advertising Dept.,
Freeport WC1 8BR, or phone 01-837 3333/3311.

50

50

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

6.00 Coefax AM. News headlines, sport, weather and traffic details. Also available to viewers whose television sets do not have the teletext facility.

6.30 Breakfast Time presented by Frank Bough and Sallie Krawcheck. News at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; regional news, weather and traffic at 8.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; keep fit between 7.15 and 7.30; pop music news between 7.30 and 7.45; morning papers reviewed at 7.32 and 8.32; horoscopes between 8.30 and 8.45; cookery hints between 8.45 and 9.00, interval at 9.00.

9.10 For Schools. Colleges: Student Life. 5.30 Twigs and Wags. 10.00 You and the very young (not school). (r). 10.15 Basic maths. 10.40 Mindstretchers (ends at 10.45). 11.00 Words and Pictures (ends 11.15). 11.40 North American Indians and buffaloes. 11.55 Close-down.

12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Anne Diamond. The weather prospects come from Jim Bacon. 1.57 Regional news (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One. There is a Welsh flavour today with guests Max Boyce and Ruth Madoc. 1.55 The Flumps. (r).

2.01 For Schools. Colleges: North American Indians. 2.18 Moorlands. 2.40 Spring. 3.00 Inside Story. A documentary that examines the effects of a blizzard that engulfed the south-west of England in February 1978 (r). 3.53 Regional news (not London or Scotland).

3.55 Play School. Shown earlier on BBC2. 4.20 The All New Popeye Show. Three cartoons featuring the smooth-talking sailor (r). 4.40 Chuggers Plays Pop. Fun and games plus live music from guests Max Boyce and Ruth Madoc. 5.00 John Craven's Newsround. The latest news for young people. 5.10 The Story of the Treasure Seekers. Part five (of six) of the adventure story by E. Nesbit (r).

5.40 News with Moira Stuart. 6.00 South East at Six. 6.25 Nationwide includes John Hitchens's final report on Our National Health.

6.50 Triangle. Matt finds out who tipped off the police and the royal receives a visit from a royal personage.

7.15 Wildlife on One. David Attenborough with the world's largest rodent - the South American Capybara - a kind of guinea pig that is the size of a Labrador dog and weighs the same as a fully grown man (r). Open All Hours. Artyright has been disturbed by Granville who has had a rather too successful change of image (r).

8.10 Daffs. Features fly as recriminations abound at the residential where Sue Ellen and Mickey have been taken following the motor accident.

9.00 A Party Political Broadcast on behalf of the Labour Party.

9.05 News with John Humphrys. 9.30 Max Boyce and Friends. His guests are Ruth Madoc and Aiden J. Harvey.

10.10 Sportsnight introduced by Harry Carpenter. There are highlights from last night's bouts at Wembley Arena including Frank Bruno v Scottie Dooz. Plus the final of the world ice hockey championship and news of tonight's UEFA Cup Final.

11.00 News headlines. 11.05 Cannon. The detective is asked by a general to help his son who is accused of murder (r).

12.00 Weather.

TV-am

6.00 Daybreak with Lucy Mathon followed at 6.30 by Good Morning Britain presented by Lynda Berry and Nick Owen. News at 6.00, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; morning papers reviewed at 6.35 and 8.35; pop music news between 7.30 and 7.45; morning papers reviewed at 7.32 and 8.32; horoscopes between 8.30 and 8.45; cookery hints between 8.45 and 9.00, interval at 9.00.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 For Schools: Bicycles, new and old, and a day on a farm as Summer approaches 8.59. Ponds and what lives in them. 10.16 The life-style of a frog. 10.35 Could Britain survive a nuclear attack? 11.05 Under the microscope. 11.22 Growing up with a handicap. 11.39 History in the home.

11.54 Cartoon Time (r). 12.00 Red, Jane and Freddy sing a story about three games. 12.10 Rainbows. Learning with puppets (r). 12.30 Play It Again. Tony Blower winning entertainer award-winning producer David Putnam who talks about his life and work, and selects clips from his favourite films.

1.00 News. 1.20 Thames news. 1.30 Crown Court. Continuing the case of the woman accused of deliberately injuring her husband's former wife (r). 2.00 A Play presented by Trevor Hyatt. 2.30 A Country Practice. Drama series about a medical practice in the Australian outback. 3.30 Three Little Words. Word association quiz for married couples, presented by Ray Alan.

4.00 Road, Jane and Freddy. A repeat of the programme shown at 4.15. Cartoon: Porky Pig in Porky's Bear Facts. 4.20 The Story Show with Matthew Corbett and his pupils. 4.30 Cartoon Time. Elmer Fudd in Here Be Dragons. 4.45 What's Happening. Teams representing Devonian, Red, Exeter and Torbay and Radio Tay of Dundee compete in a quiz concerning the week's news. 5.15 Dundee. A quiz game presented by Tom O'Connor.

5.45 News. 6.00 Thames news. 6.25 Help! Community news presented by Peter Jewell-Jones.

6.35 Crossroads. Kevin Banks attempts to create some harmony in the family. 7.00 Where's Wanda? A Dr. Buckman report on the mother who fostered her own children; the problem children of Japan; and the realities of nursing.

7.30 Coronation Street. Will Fred Gee be able to rescue Del Lynd and Betty Turpin? 8.00 TV Times Top 10 Awards. Nettle Newman and David Frost announce the winners chosen by the readers of TV Times magazine in a number of entertainment categories. Includes Chaps. The second documentary of three that takes a look at modern China through the eyes of a peasant family.

10.00 A Party Political Broadcast on behalf of the Labour Party. 10.05 News. 10.35 News. 10.55 News. 11.00 News. 11.05 News. 11.10 News. 11.15 News. 11.20 News. 11.25 News. 11.30 News. 11.35 News. 11.40 News. 11.45 News. 11.50 News. 11.55 News. 12.00 News. 12.05 News. 12.10 News. 12.15 News. 12.20 News. 12.25 News. 12.30 News. 12.35 News. 12.40 News. 12.45 News. 12.50 News. 12.55 News. 13.00 News. 13.05 News. 13.10 News. 13.15 News. 13.20 News. 13.25 News. 13.30 News. 13.35 News. 13.40 News. 13.45 News. 13.50 News. 13.55 News. 14.00 News. 14.05 News. 14.10 News. 14.15 News. 14.20 News. 14.25 News. 14.30 News. 14.35 News. 14.40 News. 14.45 News. 14.50 News. 14.55 News. 15.00 News. 15.05 News. 15.10 News. 15.15 News. 15.20 News. 15.25 News. 15.30 News. 15.35 News. 15.40 News. 15.45 News. 15.50 News. 15.55 News. 16.00 News. 16.05 News. 16.10 News. 16.15 News. 16.20 News. 16.25 News. 16.30 News. 16.35 News. 16.40 News. 16.45 News. 16.50 News. 16.55 News. 17.00 News. 17.05 News. 17.10 News. 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£20.5 bn four-year income from oil

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

The Government has received £20.5bn in North Sea oil and gas revenues since it came to power in May, 1979, the Treasury revealed last night.

Disclosure of the figure, in a parliamentary written reply from Mr John Wakeham, Minister of State at the Treasury, brought an immediate protest from Mr John Smith, Labour's energy spokesman, who said that all the "bonanza" had gone to pay for the extra unemployment which had occurred since 1979.

Mr Wakeham said that the money had come from royalties, petroleum revenue tax, supplementary petroleum duty and corporation tax.

Mr Smith said: "This answer shows how immense has been the bonanza from the North Sea which this government has had during a period of office."

He continued: "The public are entitled to ask what has been done with all this money. The answer, I fear, is depressingly simple. It has all gone to pay for the extra unemployment which has occurred since 1979."

"Instead of new investment to modernize our industries and social services, or cuts in the burden of taxation, this huge national windfall has been wholly dedicated to plaster over the cracks in our sagging social system. After four years of Mrs Thatcher we are all poorer. And that is after the frittering away of £20bn."

£1.50 charge for Land's End walkers

The new owners of Land's End are to reintroduce on May 23 the £1.50 charge to pedestrians who visit the famous headland. They have also challenged the local council to take legal action over a right of way it says exists across the land.

Land's End was bought by Mr David Goldstone, a London millionaire, last year for £2.25m. The charge for visitors to the site to coastal path was suspended by Mr Goldstone's company while talks took place with representatives of the District Council which insisted that a right of way existed across the property and that charge was improper for pedestrians.



Quake aftermath: Firemen extinguishing a blaze in a pile of rubble that was once a store in central Coalinga.

Experts to see diaries

Continued from page 1

The statement made no mention of the experts to be consulted. However, it is understood that the material will be sent to the Federal Archives in Koblenz for analysis.

Professor Hans Booms, the director of the archives, said yesterday that he was unable to make any statement on the *Stern* request for a further analysis of the documents. He had been asked not to say anything about the matter for the time being. The professor's institution is responsible to the Ministry of the Interior.

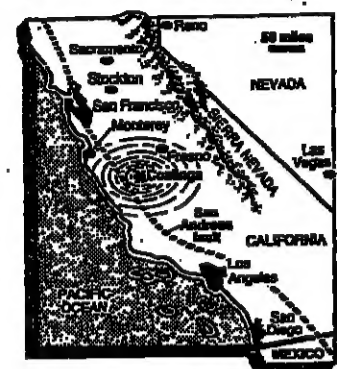
NEW YORK: Additional pages of the disputed Hitler diaries are to be sent for scientific examination at the West German Crime Laboratory in Koblenz, in the same town where the Federal Archives is, to try to establish their authenticity, Christopher Thomas writes.

The decision was revealed here by Herr Peter Koch, *Stern's* editor. The laboratory earlier studied portions of the diary volumes and concluded that the handwriting was identical to that of Hitler's.

Herr Koch is in the United States to emphasize his magazine's insistence that the diaries are not forgeries. He is accompanied by Herr Wolf-Rüdiger Hess, the son of Rudolf Hess, Hitler's former deputy.

California's worst quake for 12 years flattens town centre

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles



The tiny Californian oil and farming town of Coalinga looked like a war zone yesterday after a devastating earthquake measuring 6.5 on the Richter scale had flattened some 150 buildings, the entire centre.

But nobody was killed. Rescue workers ended their search among the rubble and reported that all residents had been accounted for. There were 45 people injured three seriously.

It was the worst earthquake to hit California since one in 1971 which killed more than 70 people in a suburb of Los Angeles. "It was as if a huge steel hand had crushed our town in one blow," said Mrs Agnes Bement, who was in the car repair store she runs with her husband in central Coalinga when the earthquake struck at 4.42pm on Monday.

The epicentre of the earthquake was five miles east of Coalinga but it was felt hundreds of miles away in San Francisco, the coastal town of Monterey, Las Vegas and Los Angeles. Coalinga, which is in the heart of the San Joaquin "salad bowl" valley, is a small town of some 7,000 residents.

Mrs Bement said: "The buildings just collapsed like packs of cards. There was extreme panic. Dust was flying, bricks falling and it was total pandemonium. I've been here since 1935 and have never seen anything like it."

She and hundreds of residents and workers rushed out of the old brick buildings in the town centre seconds before they collapsed. The first big shock touched off numerous fires.

Then came a series of about 40 aftershocks, some measuring four on the Richter scale. Many residents pitched tents in their gardens and slept fitfully in the open.

Scores were evacuated from the area and the town was sealed off by police, who reported several isolated cases of looting late on Monday night. The injured were taken by ambulance and helicopter to hospitals in Fresno and Monterey.

Scientists said the earthquake was about 15 miles east of the San Andreas fault, a deep break in the earth's crust that runs virtually the whole length of California. It took

place on an unknown and unexplained fault line.

Our Science Editor writes: Earthquakes occur somewhere in the world every day. But only those in inhabited areas, or those of immense size causing their shock waves to be felt great distances from the centre of activity, achieve notoriety.

Earthquake size is measured on a logarithmic scale to a system devised by Dr Paul Richter. The very largest shocks on the Richter scale have magnitudes greater than 8.5.

The measurements are based on records made on a standard type of seismograph at a distance of 100 kilometres from the epicentre. Usually, seismographs from several different stations contribute to computing the exact size of an earthquake.

The logarithmic character of the Richter scale is sometimes overlooked in comparing earthquakes. For example, an earthquake of 8.0 magnitude is not just twice as powerful as magnitude 4.0, but 10 x 10 x 10 x 10 (10,000 times) more powerful.

NEW YORK: Six people were killed and about 35 injured as tornadoes struck communities in Ohio and Western New York State, Reuters reports. Ohio was the worst hit, with a casualty toll of at least four dead and 23 injured.

Argentines' ship takes shelter

Continued from page 1

Among the reinforcement squadron is the Type-42 destroyer Southampton whose captain "Sam" Salt was in command of her sister ship Sheffield, which was destroyed by an Argentine missile a year ago today.

The others are said to be the Type-42 Birmingham, which like Southampton, is armed with Sea Dart long-range anti-aircraft missiles; the Type-22 frigates Broadsword and Brilliant, with their Sea Wolf anti-missile missiles and the old Rotherham-class frigate Falmouth.

The ships sailed unannounced last week, accompanied by vessels of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary, and almost certainly a nuclear-powered submarine. Officially, they are going to relieve an equal number of similar ships, which have come to the end of their tour of duty in the South Atlantic, under the normal pattern of replacement. But the latter are expected to remain on station for a while before returning, so that the Navy will have additional forces on hand.

It means that, for a short time, the Navy should have its strongest presence in the area since last summer.

The RAF has a squadron of Phantoms and a number of Harrier aircraft on the islands, Vatican rebuke, page 6

Why Argentina lost, page 14

Leading article, page 15

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Huntin', shootin'...and votin'

Mr Kevin McNamara, the Labour member for Kingston-upon-Hull, Central, yesterday sought leave to bring in a private member's Bill entitled: Protection of Animals Act, 1911, (Amendment).

This Bill would introduce a change to the 1911 Act. Which changes Mr McNamara said, "would make it an offence if a person should hunt with one or more dogs, wholly or mainly for the purpose of sport, wild animals with intent to kill or take or pursue". His Bill was "not anti-Tory, or anti-hunting, but pro-animal", he assured the House.

But what he did not mention was his Bill referred solely to animals, not fish. It was not a fish. It was therefore the Protection of Animals Bill. For it said nothing about making it an offence if a person from Kingston-upon-Hull, Central, or any other Labour-held seat, should hunt with one or more dogs, wholly or mainly for the purpose of sport, wild fish with intent to kill... etc.

"The environment and the creatures within it are placed here for man's use," Mr McNamara had reminded the House, before the brutal gaze of the huntmen on the Tory back benches. "One of the most wanton forms of inhumanity is a cruelty to human beings or animals for sheer pleasure."

On the other hand, the proletariat could continue to torment perch, roach and pike without fear of Mr McNamara.

Perhaps he is being done a disservice. Perhaps by "animal" he also meant fish. He is a Labour MP, not a zoologist. But surely he should clear the matter up as soon as possible. As it stood, his Bill made yesterday a black day for Britain's fish.

Since the house did not sit on Monday, yesterday marked the start of the parliamentary May Day holiday introduced by Mr Michael Foot when he was Secretary of State for Employment.

No doubt many a Labour voter was lurking on Monday over river and stream, trying to get a horrible great hook into the mouths of the terrified fish below; fish far

more harmless than the foxes killed in the right-wing version of this blood sport. But, with a general election perhaps in the offing, it was no time to go upsetting the Labour tally no types who like nothing better than to give chase to tetch or cluch.

Mr McNamara was granted leave to bring in his Bill unopposed. This was because the measure has no chance of being given parliamentary time. Had it been otherwise, the Tories from the shires would not have been content not to vote it down.

Mr McNamara read out the names of the gentle nature lovers and/or cast warriors who were his co-sponsors of the Bill. They included Mr Joseph Ashton, the member for Basildon. He is a professional northener, the author of a column in the *Daily Star* entitled "Joe Ashton: the Voice, are wisely assumed by him to include relatively few Masters of Foxhounds, but many masters of fishing rods. Hence his anti-fish policy.

Another sponsor of the Bill was Mr Roy Hattersley. He too is a professional northerner and contributor to the public prints. He is the Joe Ashton of the quality press.

The Bill, then, had to be seen in the light of the general election. So must everything else until Mrs Thatcher, who is as much in the dark as the rest of us about the date, discovers after Thursday whether she is going to call one. So yesterday everyone, including her, was waiting.

Through Prime Minister's question time, Mrs Thatcher and Mr Foot waited on their respective front benches, halfheartedly skirmishing with one another on rates of taxation. On the Labour benches, those in marginal seats waited in terror.

Below the gangway, Mr Edward Heath waited in silence. He was fresh from the unique feat of getting himself reported as being annoyed with the Queen Mother, the last public figure to do so being the Duchess of Windsor. No one could accuse Mr Heath of choosing safe targets. So there is at least one man who, however much we monarchists may disagree with him, deserves to be re-elected.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, opens the Wall Walk at the Tower of London, 4.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as President of the Central Council of Physical Recreation, chairs the council's annual general meeting at Fishmongers' Hall, EC4, 10.30; and as Chancellor of Salford University, views a mobile education centre at Buxton Palace, 2.30.

The Duke of Gloucester, as Patron of the Kensington Society,

unveils a commemorative tablet to Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, in a memorial garden at Kensington Town Hall, 6.30.

Princess Alexandra, as Vice-President of the British Red Cross Society, visits the Annual Holiday for the handicapped, organised by the Cheshire branch on behalf of twelve county branches in the North West, and given by Bass PLC, at Pontin's Holiday Centre, Lytham St Anne's, Lancashire, 11.45; and as Patron of the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, opens the new training Centre at Middlesbrough, Cleveland, 3.

New exhibitions

St Attitudes: Different approaches to painting by Susan Bonviva Stuart Cox, Andrew Eden, Colin Garden, Bill Mitchell and Charlotte Moore, City Museum and Art Gallery, Princes Street, Peterborough; Tues to Sat 10 to 5 (from today until June 4).

Bristol Photographic Society's International Salon of Photography, City Museum and Art Gallery, Queen's Road, Bristol; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (until May 21).

Grace and Labour: watercolours, prints and drawings with porcelain, sculpture and objects (art, featuring people at work and at leisure, Cecil Higgins Art Gallery, Castle Close, Bedford; Tues to Fri 12.30 to 5, Sat 11 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until the end of December).

West Oxfordshire Arts Association: anniversary exhibition, Bampton Arts Centre, Town Hall; Tues to Sat 10.30 to 1.30 to 5, Sun 2.30 to 4.30, closed Mondays and Wednesdays (until May 13).

A Month in the Country, commemorating the centenary of Ivan Turgenev's death, Victoria and Albert Museum; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2.30 to 5.30, closed Fridays (until May 30).

Skyworks: Kites and banners designed and made by Skye Morrison; Castle Museum, The Castle, Nottingham; Mon to Sun 10 to 4.45 (until June 5).

Exhibitions in progress

To Astonish the World: Decorative design over two centuries, Wedgwood Visitor Centre, Barlaston, near Stoke-on-Trent; Mon to Fri 9 to 5 (until Dec 22).

Photographs by Colin Baxter, Roselle House, Rosell Park, Ayr; Mon to Sat 11 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends today).

Talks, lectures

The world of Worms, by L. T. Bunyan, Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 2.

The making of St Paul's Cathedral gates and other projects by Alan Evans, Royal Museum, Queen Street, Exeter, 12.40.

Music

Flute and piano recital by Margaret Campbell and Christopher Cox, St Mary's, Aylesbury, 8.

Concert by Triptych (jazz trio), Drama Studio, Derrington, Totnes, 8.

Concert by the Nazis Quartet, Glasgow, 7.30.

Harp recital by Marisa Robles, Southport Arts Centre, Lord Street, 8.

TV top ten

National top ten television programmes in the week ending April 24th:

1. Coronation Street (Wed), Granada, 16.50m
2. The Day the Earth Shook, Granada, 14.50m
3. Crossroads (Tues), Central, 14.50m
4. Family Fortunes, Central, 13.00m
5. News at Ten, Central, 12.50m
6. Crossroads (Wed), Central, 12.50m
7. Henry's Portrait, Central, 12.50m
8. Where There's a Will, Yorkshire, 12.20m
9. Emmerdale Farm (Tues), Yorkshire, 11.50m
10. Only When I Laugh, Yorkshire, 11.00m

BBC 1

1. Eurovision Song Contest 1983, 12.50m
2. Call My Bluff, 5.70m
3. Are You Being Served?, 11.70m
4. Open All Hours, 10.30m
5. News at Ten, 10.25m
6. The Life, 9.50m
7. Top of the Pops, 9.75m
8. Marmalade, 9.50m
9. Henry's Portrait, 9.50m
10. News and Weather (9.50pm Sun), 9.25m

BBC 2

1. Just Another Day, 6.55m
2. Call My Bluff, 5.70m
3. The Day the Earth Shook, 5.80m
4. World Snooker (10.30pm Tues), 5.80m
5. World Snooker (8.40pm Thurs), 5.45m
6. World Snooker (10.05pm Fri), 5.15m
7. Marmalade, 5.10m
8. Top Gear, 4.70m
9. World Snooker (10.15pm Sun), 4.50m
10. Discovering Hedgehogs, 4.55m

CH4

1. Word of Honour, 2.50m
2. Soap, 2.50m
3. A Captain's Tale, 2.15m
4. The Muppet Show, 1.90m
5. Brookside (Tues), 1.75m
6. Brookside (Wed), 1.50m
7. S.W.A.T., 1.40m
8. Bridget Jones's Diary, 1.40m
9. Pumping Iron, 1.30m
10. Queens, 1.20m

S4C

1. Poby y Cwm (serial), BBC, 85,000
2. Y Byd yn ei Lla (current affairs), HTV, 85,000
3. Sweeney (sport), BBC, 78,000
4. Gorau Gari (science magazine), HTV, 72,000
5. Y Byd yn ei Lla (current affairs), HTV, 65,000
6. Y Byd yn ei Lla (documentary), HTV, 65,000

Breakfast television

The average weekly figures for audiences at peak times (with previous week's figures in parentheses) are:

BBC1, Breakfast Times: Mon to Fri 1.5m (1.5m), Sat 1.5m (1.5m), Sun 0.4m (0.7m).

Regional Audience Research Board.

Anniversaries

Birth: William Prescott, historian, Salem, Massachusetts, 1796.

Thomas Henry Huxley, zoologist, Middlesex, 1825; Alexander Begg, theatrical director and designer, St Petersburg, 1870. The General Strike began and lasted until May 12, 1926.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Police and Criminal Justice Bill, report stage, second day.

Lords (2.30): Debate on Soviet penetration and influence in the Third World.

Roads

London and South-east: Tower Bridge raised at 10.10am, 3.50pm and 4.30pm; use London Bridge, A13: Roadworks along New Road, Basingstoke, and the East India Dock Road at Limehouse, M3: One carriageway shared around junction 3 (Camden); no exit northbound.

Wales and West: A55: Temporary lights at Penmaen Head, Old Colwyn, A48: Temporary one-way system on High Street, Llydney; diversion: M5: Restrictions from junctions 26 (Taunton) to 27 (Tiverton).

Middlesex: A41: Temporary signals on Newport to Watlington Road at Terhill railway bridge, M54: Lane closures both ways on Telford bypass; diversion at junction 5, A49/A456: Temporary lights at Belmont Island, Hereford.

North: A19: Lane closures on Thirsk bypass, A6119: Lane closures on Whitebird Drive, Blackburn, for construction of M65 junction, M6: Northbound carriageway between junctions 41 (north of Peartree) to 42 (south of Carlisle).

Scotland: Western approach road near Lothian Road, Edinburgh, reduced to a single lane each way, M30: Southbound carriageway, shared at junction 2 (Dunfermline), A945: Single-lane traffic on Riverside Drive at Wellington Bridge.

Information supplied by the A.A.

The papers

Companies with defence contracts have nothing to do with the nuclear argument, the Daily Star says. A successful CND campaign against them would presumably mean money lost and jobs shed.

CND's battle "should be fought in the minds of the people - not the pockets of the workers".

Four years ago Mrs Thatcher promised to bring harmony, the Daily Mirror says. Today Thatcher's Britain "is a picture of record unemployment and record bankruptcies. Most people are paying more money for the unemployed than doubled. Schools, hospitals and social services are in crisis."

The pound

	Bank	Bank	Bank
	Buy	Sell	Sell
Australia \$	1.88	1.90	
Austria Sch	28.60	28.80	
Belgium Fr	88.00	76.00	
Canada \$	1.99	1.91	
Denmark Kr	14.32	13.60	
Finland Mk	8.95	8.45	
France F	12.05	11.45	
Germany DM	4.01	3.81	
Greece Dr	137.00	128.00	
Hong Kong \$	11.28	10.70	
Ireland Pt	1.27	1.21	
Italy Lira	394.00	374.00	
Netherlands Gld	4.51	4.29	
Norway Kr	11.62	11.02	
Portugal Esc	169.00	151.00	
Spain Pta	217.50	206.50	
Sweden Kr	12.27	11.65	
Switzerland F	3.38	3.20	
USA \$	1.63	1.57	
Yugoslavia Dn	128.00	121.00	

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Reuters Bank International Ltd. Retail Price Index: 327.9.

London The FT index closed down 3.2 at 692.1.

Weather

Frontal troughs will move E across S England.

6 am to midnight

London, East Angles, Midlands: Cloudy, some brighter intervals, cloud thickening with a little rain later, wind variable, becoming E, light or moderate; max 12 to 14C (54 to 57F).

SE Central & SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Mostly cloudy, rain at times, more persistent later, wind mainly E, light, increasing moderate or fresh; max 11 to 12C (52 to 54F).

E and NE England: Cloudy, a little rain chiefly near coasts, max 10 to 12C (50 to 54F).

N Wales and NW and Central N England: Rain clearing, sunny periods, mainly dry; wind variable, light, becoming E, increasing moderate or fresh; max 12 to 14C (54 to 57F).

Lowland: Isle of Man, SW and NW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland: Mainly dry, fog patches clearing, sunny periods developing; wind variable, light or moderate; Near normal max 12 to 14C (54 to 57F).

London, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth: Cloudy, a little rain at first, sunny intervals later, wind N, moderate, becoming variable, light; max 10 to 12C (50 to 54F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Unsettled, temperatures mainly near normal but rather cold in parts of N. SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Strathclyde, Down Wind variable, light, becoming SW moderate or fresh; sea much becoming slightly choppy. English Channel: Wind SW, light, increasing fresh or strong, sea much becoming moderate or rough; with S.W. Wind, becoming moderate or strong, sea much becoming slightly choppy.

Sun rises: Sun sets: 5.29 am 8.29 pm

Lighting-up time

London 8.59 pm to 4.55 am

Edinburgh 8.27 pm to 4.22 am

Manchester 8.15 pm to 4.08 am

Edinburgh 8.16 pm to 4.22 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday, 1 bar, 4 cloud, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30.

Highest and lowest

Highest day temp: Middle Wales, 19C (66F); lowest day temp: Aberdeen, 10C (50F); highest night temp: Aberdeen, 5.5C (42F); lowest night temp: Aberdeen, 1.5C (35F).

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 7 am to 7 pm, 19C (66F); min 7 pm to 7 am, 12C (54F); wind: S.W. 24 to 7 pm, 0.25 m/s; rain: 24 to 7 pm, 0.25 m/s; sun: 24 to 7 pm, 0.25 m/s; clouds: 24 to 7 pm, 0.25 m/s.

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NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars. Fronts shown are advancing after



High tides

Location	AM	PM
London Bridge	7.02	8.2
Tower Bridge	8.32	9.4
Avonmouth	—	12.12
Belling	4.35	3.0
Canning	11.22	5.19
Dockyard	10.63	4.3
Dover	1.10	5.3
Falmouth	10.52	10.46
Glasgow	4.54	6.19
Harwich	5.05	3.6
Lowestoft	3.52	4.15
Hull	11.26	5.3
Harrogate	1.08	8.14
Liverpool	6.23	8.49
Lowestoft	1.17	7.45
Harrogate	2.49	2.27
Harrogate	3.18	5.34
Harrogate	11.29	5.4
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